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SANDF and SAPS service benefits

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TOP PHOTO (PAGE 3): At the function after the parade Mr January Masilela, the Secretary for Defence, hands over a gift to Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, the outgoing Chief of the SANDF (left), while Lt Col Frans Schoombee, looks on.

PHOTO (PAGE 2): Fltr: R Adm (JG) Rusty Higgs, Director Maritime Warfare, V Adm Johannes (Refiloe) Mudimu, the Chief of the SA Navy, Mr Roelf Meyer, a former Minister of Defence, and R Adm (JG) Jonny Kamerman, Project Director of Project FITRON, in Germany.

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FRONT COVER: We salute our new Chief, General Godfrey Ngwenya. Please read more about the change of command parade on pages 10 to 13. (Photo: F 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

W e at SA SOLDIER salute our outgoing Chief of the SA National Defence Force, General Siphiwe Nyanda, and wish him all the best for the future. By the same token everyone at SA SOLDIER welcomes our new Chief, General Godfrey Ngwenya, to the helm. Please read more about the change of command parade on pages 10 to 13.

In this edition please read more about the visits of Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, our Minister of Defence, to the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on pages 16 and 17.

Not only in this country, but also worldwide, the 60th anniversary of the ending of World War II in Europe (VE Day) was recently commemorated. World War II was the most extensive and costly armed conflict in history and involved most of the world’s nations. It was fought simultaneously in several major theatres and cost approximately 55.5 million lives. In total World War II caused the deaths of about two percent of the population of the world. Please read more about the Victory in Europe (VE) Day celebrations sixty years later on pages 18 to 22.

Read all about the naming ceremony of the second South African submarine. SA SOLDIER’s photographer, F Sgt David Nomthongwana, was present in Germany to capture the moment for us. Please read more about the unveiling ceremony on pages 28 to 32.

Recently former members of the SANDF joined the ranks of the SAPS. This unique career opportunity for members of the SANDF has arisen from an agreement reached between the DOD and the SAPS. Please read more about the SANDF and the SAPS service benefits on pages 42 and 43, where they are compared.

We shall continue to test various approaches to improve the look, feel and content of the magazine. One major issue, which will be re-examined, is to publish various articles in our eleven official languages on a rotational basis in future editions of SA SOLDIER. The services of Directorate Language Services of the DOD are utilised to provide the necessary translations as published in SA SOLDIER. Our readers are welcome to contact Directorate Language Services of the DOD for translations of any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages. For assistance please contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176.

Our next edition - the August edition - will once again be a special edition on our women in defence, as was the case last year. SA SOLDIER greetings.

Nelda Pienaar
Editor

Ezivela kwidesika yoMhleli


Asikuko kwilizwe jikelele, koko kwihlabathathi lilionkile, bekubanjwe isikhumbuzo sama-60 sokuphela kweMfazwe yeSibini yeHLabathi (World War II) eYurophu (VE Day). Mfazwe yeSibini yeHLabathi yeyona mfazwe eyayibanzi renexabiso eliphezulu emweni woxuk-hoba ufohlele kwimibali kwanye ikwabandakanyi unini izwezizwe ngzewezwe kwihlabathi. Yaliwa ngaxeshanye kuyinandi ezolukuncya ezinzi yaze yathatha ubomi babantu abamalunga nama-55.5 ezigidi. Inani lilionke labantu abaswelele ngxeshwa leMfazwe yeSibini yeHLabathi limalungu nesibini ekukwenzani (2%) yabemi behlabathi lilionke jikelele. Nceda ufunde ngokubanzi malunga ngakubani kubhasha uSuku olwaziwa njenge-Victory in Europe Day (VE) kwiminyaka engamashumi amathanadatha, ukusuka kwiphepha le-18 ukuya kuma-22.


Kutshanje, malungu angaphambili e-SANDF ajoyine irenki zez-SAPS. Eli thuba lilodwa kwimisebenzi yamalungu e-SANDF livelsise sisivumelwano ekuiekilelewe kuso phakathi kwe-DOD ne-SAPS. Nceda ufunde ngokubanzi malunga netheko lotyhilo loku ukusuka kwiphepha lama-43.


Uhlile lwethu olulandelayo - olwenyanga ka-Agasti - luya kuthi kwakphona lube luhlelo uloludwa malunga namakhosikazi ethu ekhukuncile nje pakakulo nyaka uphelileyo. Ngemibuliso ye-SA SOLDIER.

Nelda Pienaar
uMhleli
A one-day seminar on post-traumatic stress disorder management and its roll-out in the SANDF was held at the SAMHS Officers’ Mess in Thaba Tshwane on 12 May 2005.

Addressing the guests at the opening of the seminar the then Chief of the SANDF, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, said stress management training has become an increasingly important factor in the adequate preparation and training of soldiers. “Knowing what can be expected, ie the nature of the mission, length of deployment, living and working conditions, and channels open for communication with loved ones can greatly reduce the physical and emotional demands that contribute to combat stress,” said Gen Nyanda.

The main objectives of the seminar were:

- To give top management and senior commanders in the SANDF the opportunity to familiarise themselves with the concept of managing post-traumatic stress disorder in the SANDF.
- To give top management and senior commanders in the SANDF the opportunity to interact and discuss the concept of managing post-traumatic stress disorder in the SANDF.
- To give top management and senior commanders in the SANDF the opportunity to buy into the roll-out process of post-traumatic stress disorder management in the SANDF.
- To establish and recommend best practice for the roll-out of post-traumatic stress disorder management in the SANDF.

What is post-traumatic stress disorder?

Post-traumatic stress disorder is a psychiatric condition that can occur following experience or witnessing of life-threatening events, such as military combat, natural disasters, terrorist incidents, serious accidents or violent personal assault like rape.

Defining stress

The physical and psychological processes within the individual as a result of reacting to and coping with an event or situation that places pressure upon the person.

Current reality for the SANDF

- Post-traumatic stress disorder is a complex disorder that is often misunderstood. Not everyone who experiences a traumatic event will develop post-traumatic stress disorder, but many people do.
  - Myth: Post-traumatic stress disorder only affects war veterans.
  - Fact: Post-traumatic stress disorder can affect anyone.
- Victims of trauma related to physical and sexual assault face the greatest risk of developing post-traumatic stress disorder. Women are about twice as likely to develop it as men.

Estimated risk for post-traumatic stress disorder

- Rape (49%)
- Severe beating or physical assault (31.9%)
- Other sexual assault (23.7%)
- Serious accident or injury, for example car or train accident (16.8%)
- Shooting or stabbing (15.4%)
- Sudden, unexpected death of family member or friend (14.3%)
- Child’s life-threatening illness (10.4%)
- Witness to killing or serious injury (7.3%)
- Natural disaster (3.8%)

Prevention is better than cure

Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, the then Chief of the SANDF, addresses the delegates at the seminar, while Lt Gen Rinus Jansen van Rensburg, the Surgeon General, looks on.

Compiled by Lebohang Letoaona

Photos: F Sgt Amelda Strydom
Change your approach and results

Firstly let me remind the readers about the letter I wrote while I was a Corporal, which was published in the SA SOLDIER of May 2003 titled: "I will staff myself". This letter met with various reactions. Which was of cause expected. Senior members I met really appreciated the message, while most of my colleagues said it was impossible to staff oneself.

Despite some criticism the majority of members registered and will be in their second year this year. To them education is addictive, as it is to people with vision: they always want more.

Nevertheless I did understand their pessimistic approach to the letter because just the word "staffing" was really a "red flag" to members who had been waiting for promotion as far back as ten years ago. I just felt that I would be letting down some members if I do not give feedback on the above-mentioned letter, because we had become doubting "Thomases" who wanted to see before we believed, because of the hardship we encountered in our military careers.

One chaplain once said during his scripture reading: "One cannot change his or her origin, but can change his or her future destiny". Of concern now is this DOD HR 2010, which couples rank with age: it gives a person something to think about, and of course there are questions. Some questions can be asked, eg will six years from now find one still with no Grade 12, no diploma or degree while the DOD is trying to provide funds for members to achieve this? The answer should be a definite big "No". Think how it will be to celebrate your individual achievement while the country celebrates the Soccer World Cup. Stand up and be counted - Lt N. Ngcobo, Adjutant Northern MP Region.

I am part of you

I know it is a late entry, but hopefully it will still bring the point home. Let me express my pride in your Defence Force. Your force is vast and dynamic. I take a keen interest in your magazine because that is the only way I can learn more about your Defence Force. As I am from an SADC country I feel proud to be associated with your force. In 10 years the SANDF has demonstrated to me a commendable military professionalism with an excellent calibre of command both at national and international level, which other African defence forces have to emulate. Keep it up! - Lt Kondwani K. Chipanda, Orthopaedic Clinical Officer, Military Health Services (Malawi).

The champions of peace

I am very happy and proud to be one of the ambassadors of my family, ambassadors of my unit - 4 SAI Bn - and ambassador of my country - South Africa, and to be the champion of peacemakers and peacekeepers. Yes, we are the masters of peace.

I am blessed by God to be a South African citizen - the country of peace, love and harmony. What South Africa is doing for the people of Africa is what is supposed to be done by the whole world and I believe that the whole of Africa will have peace. Through the South Africans there will be peace on the continent. My wish is that God will help everyone of us to be tolerant of one another and to be patriotic so that we can help those pathetic victims and give them love and peace.

South African soldiers, our motto is love and peace - Thulani Joseph Sigalelana, 4 SAI Bn (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.

Moment of silence

The late Bashin Sejake’s life may have been cut short when he was in his prime, but Bashin Sejake’s military, social and religious life, sportsman that he was, was excellently lived. He was known to most soldiers, civilians and his fans as an energetic young soccer player who did whatever it took to get his way. He will be remembered as a most humble God-fearing soul who never minced his words when it came to his love of God. He lived his life fully, and upheld and lived according to military principles and those of God, and he was a blessing not only to his family and the relatives, but to all those who had the opportunity to know him. He related to ordinary soldiers in an amazing way and took a very personal interest in everyone he worked and played with. Bashin was a very sweet, ever smiling, tall and darkish coloured guy and everybody’s friend. He taught us that one does not have to be aggressive to get one’s points across. It was a blessing for us and wonderful to know, work and play with a hero like him, and he will be missed a lot by 2 SAI Bn in Middelburg, the RSA contingent in Burundi, Lawley residence in Johannesburg and as a ember of the UN and former AU and by the Burundians at large.

We grieve, sympathise and pay our condolences to the family and friends of the late fallen warrior - Sgt T.D. Makiti, RSA Contingent HQ, Burundi.

We bring to your attention the late Bashin Sejake died in a recent shooting incident at the Palace Base, Burundi - Ed.

Bashin Sejake died in a recent shooting incident at the Palace Base, Burundi.
Adieu General

The first decade of our democracy, 1994 to 2004, coincides with the tenth year celebrations of both our freedom and the founding of the SANDF. These important milestones in the country are indicative of some of the successes achieved thus far. The challenges facing our democracy in general and our Defence Force in particular are interlinked. The DOD shall, at all times, be guided by the strategic framework defined by the Government’s imperatives and priorities.

The most important resources that any State department must deploy to realise its objectives are its employees, funds, leadership, organisational culture and technology. To appreciate the extent to which the SANDF has managed to implement both the Government’s priorities and its own programme in this decade the author will briefly comment on the achievements, challenges and leadership qualities of General Siphiwe Nyanda. It is a truism that people make history, but individuals can make a difference. That is why we make history, but individuals can make a difference. That is why it is appropriate to take stock of the accomplishment of one who was charged with the task of steering the SANDF through thick and thin.

Achievements: National Peacekeeping Force - The first salvos were unleashed by the formation in 1993 of the National Peacekeeping Force (NPKF), the creation of the Transitional Executive Council (TEC). This actually started the General’s journey through the maze of integration and transformation processes in the yet to be established SANDF. The NPKF’s mission was to stabilise the unstable security situation obtaining in some parts of South Africa, especially Gauteng.

The achievements of the NPKF at operational and tactical level are not worth writing home about. However, the significance of the NPKF lay in the space it created for the seven disparate Armed Forces to engaged one another at all levels, ie intellectually, emotionally and physically. The roles of the Umkhonto we Sizwe Military Headquaters (MKMHQ), as lead by the then MK Commander, the late Honourable Joe Modise, and the then Chief of Staff, General Nyanda, were decisive in channelling the energies of MK soldiers towards the stabilisation of the RSA. It is unfortunate that to date the strategic gains made by the NPKF have not been honoured by a commemorative medal or award.

Formation of the SANDF - The crucible within which the SANDF was formed was tempered by the sweat, tears and blood of all Armed Forces that created the SANDF. From the rumpus of Wallmannshal and De Brug - the two Integration Centres - the unfortunate bloody Tempe incident, to the operations in support of the SAPS and borderlinc control, the peace support and humanitarian operations in Africa, the SANDF, under General Nyanda, performed extremely well. Our presence today in Africa is indicative of the fact that the SANDF has really come of age. At this stage the SANDF is in the process of renewing in terms of its macro-organisational structure, human reources, equipment and culture, among others.

Challenges - The SANDF has gone through difficult times in the past ten years. The expected problems that confronted it did not, fortunately, tear it apart. The centre continued to hold thanks to the men and women who persevered in the midst of immense challenges, such as impatience, gender and race imbalances, unequal treatment, lack of resources and civil-military relations.

Leaders are judged not by the good times in which they find themselves, but by how they respond to difficult and stressful times. No doubt the General’s eyes were always fixed on the DOD’s vision, which is Effective Defence for a Democratic South Africa.

Leadership - The General’s leadership qualities may be explained largely in terms of his experiences during the liberation struggle. As a front-line Commander during the liberation struggle his perception of command in battle was influenced by both geographic distance and the nature of guerrilla warfare. The long lines of command and control, eg from Lusaka to Swaziland and South Africa demanded initiative, creative and an independent mind of a Commander. The flow of orders and their implementation happened within the context of a mission-oriented command based on mutual trust and respect. The emphasis was on the results, the “what”, within set parameters and control rather than the “how”.

This is what the General brought with him from exile and he continued to apply this during his tenure as the Chief of the SANDF. When presiding over meetings he would allow participants to air their views freely. Of course, at the end the General would have the final word and that word was our compass.

He was patient and decisive. He led by example. For instance he volunteered to go through the mill by completing all the military and academic courses necessary for his work. A unifier and stickler for conscious and firm discipline, he always put the interests of the collective first. He put a high premium on self-development, fitness and good health. He was an Atkin’s diet fanatic. Well, he worked hard and sometimes played hard too.

Conclusion - At some time during his tenure the General straddled the shifting sands of the integration processes and at another time skated the thin ice of transformation. All these he did with fortitude and level-headedness. The success of our 10 years of freedom and the transformation of the SANDF and its achievements are the shining examples of a mission accomplished. He leaves behind a Defence Force that is combat-ready to support our people, Government and indeed the rest of Africa. To quote the General: “A Defence Force that is second to none”. Adieu General - Lt Gen S.Z. Binda, Pretoria.

Errata June 2005 edition of SA Soldier

Please take note - The photo caption at the top of page 18 should read: Our Minister of Defence (left) pays a courtesy call on the President of Mali, His Excellency Amadou Toumani Toure. The photo caption at the top of page 19 should read: Our Minister of Defence (left) and the Malian Minister of Defence and War Veterans, His Excellency Minister Mamadou Clazizi Cissouma.
Simunye

I am writing this poem for the late Officer Commanding of Sasol Commando, Lt Col Frikkie Burger.

I thank those who have passed away; they are still remembered by us who honour their strength and ability to work accordingly.

"Simunye"
Simunye - We are one
Nickname - Simunye

Letter of friendly advice

Could I ask you to publish this friendly advice in SA SOLDIER. I am concerned about the criminal activities of uniformed members of all ranks in the organisation.

My own case could be an eye-opener, and serve as a warning to those involved. I am referred to as a true example of what crime can do to an individual.

I salute you all, officers, non-commissioned officers, all the men and women of the different corps in the SANDF, especially the SA Army Formation - the Infantry Corps.

Let me introduce myself. I am Mr Boitumelo Sylvester Boihang, who served as a Platoon Commander with the rank of Lieutenant with 10 SAI Bn based in Mafikeng. Prior to that I served with the then Bophuthatswana Defence Force at 1 Infantry Battalion and Military School. After the integration of former Statutory and Non-statutory Forces into the present formidable force and national asset, I offered my services as an officer instructor at CS3 in Potchefstroom, North Western Command Headquarters until I was transferred to 10 SAI Bn in 1997. I served in other parts of the Republic as well, especially in the then strife-torn KwaZulu-Natal (KZN) for a short while. This was because of an unforeseen and unintentional crime committed in 1998, which was due to negligence.

The reason I wrote this was to spread the message to fellow men and women in the Defence Force to urge and advise them to stay away from crime and to serve as they are supposed to. The main aim is to depict the impact of crime, because ultimately crime leads to incarnation, which means doing time behind bars. What a terrible state to find oneself in!

I have come to the shocking conclusion that there are many ex-Defence Force members and other security agencies serving time in correctional centres around the country, for criminal offences. To me this is not right and their conduct needs to be condemned.

Many will wonder why I am writing this. I am well placed to do this as I am in fact now "an inmate", "a prisoner" serving time in a correctional centre because of a criminal offence committed during one of my deployments in KZN. This is unfortunate, but true.

What is crime? Men and women regard crime as an everyday occurrence, forgetting that it is an illegal action for which a person can be punished by law, and that is exactly what happened in my case. If you are committing crime, you will be punished, which means time in prison. You will be incarcerated.

Another fact is that there are unscrupulous people in uniform. They have ulterior motives and indulge in criminal activities of all sorts, eg bribes, aiding criminals, selling drugs, taking drugs, stealing State info, selling Government equipment, smuggling weapons and committing other serious and violent crimes, such as rape and murder. So I saw a need for brotherly advice to those involved in such awful activities that would serve as an early warning and a humble plea to them to stop. Crime has catastrophic results, which I do not want you to experience.

It is my belief that it is important to remember and understand that because you are a uniformed member you have undergone training to acquire skills and knowledge in your field of expertise. So conduct yourself in a responsible way, and not as a menace to society. You must use such acquired skills and knowledge to protect society at all costs.

Yet another point to consider is that of "abuse of power". Those in authority have certain powers vested in them to enable us to perform our duties with ease and in a proper manner. Instead of this happening, however, many end up abusing their power. They use it instead for personal gain, lust and pleasure. Consider this saying, "Power corrupts, and absolute power corrupts absolutely". This is absolutely true.

"No one is above the law". Many uniformed members have a tendency to self-interest, manipulation and deception, which in turn is used to further their criminal aims by their manipulating of the system to deceive others. They do this thinking they are untouchable. No! They are wrong. Everyone who commits crime will be punished.

This kind of behaviour leads civilians to point fingers at the entire organisation, because they have tarnished its image. Drastic disciplinary measures should be taken against the perpetrators irrespective of rank or standing.

My fellow brothers and sisters, ending up behind bars is not what I want you to experience. It is not child's play. The "heat" is unbearable. So, a choice is presented to you while you are still employed. Do the right thing or learn the hard way. Change your ways, think of who you are, where you come from and what you want in life. Look also at aspects of the training you have undergone and the skills you have acquired. Are you using it to the advantage of your fellow citizens or only of yourself? Is it worthwhile? Do you abuse your power? Remember again that no one is above the law.

I have pointed out that criminal activities are in existence in the force and are carried out by some uniformed members. It should not be forgotten...
that crime goes hand in hand with incarceration, and incarceration has results that are not good. You will be labelled and be a disgrace to your fellow workers, your family, friends and to yourself, because what you did was unacceptable and very wrong. Your dignity and even personality will be injured by the fact that you no longer enjoy your status as a good person. Your career will be destroyed. It comes to an abrupt end, and your chances of employment are very slim because you now have a criminal record.

To improve or develop oneself academically in these circumstances is a daunting task. You learn the hard way, because the situation is unfavourable, not to mention the overcrowding and the prison subculture, which are the main hurdles hindering rehabilitation.

Valuable time and opportunities are lost. We all know that life goes on, and the saying goes: “Time wasted shall never be regained” and “time waits for no man”. Opportunities go by while you are still in prison. You become an outcast and your community, family, friends and society want nothing to do with offenders like you. No one wants to be associated with a criminal. This is a stigma you have to live with.

The most painful aspect is that families disintegrate. Family life becomes unstable: those left behind, eg the wives, girlfriends, husbands and boyfriends will find solace elsewhere. You only exist where you are. What a situation to find yourself in! I am quite sure you would not like it to happen to you. Everyone disassociates himself from you. Families are brought into disrepute. Your actions will cause quite an unbearable situation. Family members, your children, and everyone in the household will be scorned and have to put up with nasty stories and name-calling. The cause - their father, mother, brother or sister, son or daughter.

Parenthood, the years of youth and the productive years are greatly affected. As a parent, you no longer provide as usual and your responsibilities are limited because you cannot attend to family matters or run errands as a father or a mother. As a youth, your years spent behind bars are wasted. To those in the productive years things come to a halt and it will take time to recover, depending on your sentence and other factors, eg illness.

Your freedom is limited. You are controlled and have no free will. Communication has no privacy; it is limited by the time allowed for visits, which in turn are also limited. Many become psychos, meaning that they develop serious mental problems. This is real. The situation here can frustrate you and disorientate you.

In concluding this advice I want to point out that it is not only directed at SANDF members, but at all men and women in uniform. Let us all rid ourselves of unseemly and unacceptable behaviour, because crime does not pay. Instead it ruins life, causes misery and destroys careers. Stop such behaviour, stop committing crime and let us serve the society with diligence as we are expected to do. It is your duty to protect your fellow citizens and to uphold the image of your organisation. Actions speak louder than words. I hope that this advice will provide you with some useful information and issues to think about. There is a need for those on the wrong path to change - Boitumelo Sylvester Boihang, Rooigrond Correctional Centre, Mmbatho.

**Cordial thankfulness**

As Paraguayan Head of the Diplomatic and Consular Mission in the Republic of South Africa, I have great pleasure in writing to you to express my sincere and cordial thankfulness for having received a copy (May 2005 edition) of the prestigious military magazine, namely SA SOLDIER, the official monthly publication of the SA Department of Defence. In this regard I should like to avail myself of this opportunity to extend to you my warmest congratulations on this very relevant and interesting editorial initiative, which is aimed at providing very useful and meaningful information to the national and international community, both public and private, in general. Furthermore, I also want to encourage you strongly to continue with this really valuable publication, to the undoubted benefit of the entire South African citizenry and as a source of information for the numerous members of foreign communities residing in this very beautiful and lovely country. Kindly accept the renewed assurances of my highest and distinguished consideration - Arnaldo Ricardo Salazar, Chargé d’Affaires, Embajada Del Paraguay.

**SANDF Cricket tour**

The SANDF Cricket Association (SANDFCA) engaged in a highly successful inland cricket tour to the Free State and Northern Cape Provinces from 20 to 25 February 2005. Two teams of the SANDFCA, which were selected after the 2004 SANDF Championships held in Bloemfontein, viz the SANDF XI and the SANDF President’s Team, played in three representative matches on the tour to Kimberley and Bloemfontein respectively. The teams were accompanied by the Patron of the SANDFCA, Brig Gen M.M. Moadira, the President of the SANDFCA, Col N.J. Majola, and the executive committee.

All the members stayed in the ASB Bloemfontein Combined Club and experienced hospitality of the highest degree. **Results of the tour matches were as follows:** 22 February 2005: SANDF XI vs Griquas Invitation XI played in Kimberley (match played over 45 overs). The Griquas Invitation XI, including several Griqua amateur players, won by 110 runs. 23 February 2005: SANDF President’s XI vs Bloemfontein Cricket Association Junior Board XI (BCA XI) played in Bloemfontein (match played over 45 overs). The BCA XI won by 122 runs. 24 February 2005: SANDF XI vs Free State Invitation XI played in Bloemfontein (match played over 50 overs). The SANDF XI won this most important match of the tour by 141 runs. This second inland cricket tour of the SANDFCA was a great success and the executive committee is already busy with plans for the 2006 tour. The SANDFCA wishes to extend its thanks and appreciation to all parties involved - D PTSR (Col W. Steinbach and personnel), players, officials, administrators and Officers Commanding for their unselfish co-operation in ensuring that this year’s tour will always be remembered - Maj Pierre Hamman, Media Liaison Officer SANDFCA.
A final compliment to a General for life

By CPO Dennis Ndaba
Photos: F Sgt David Nomthongwana

Gen Siphiwe Nyanda bowed out as the Chief of the SANDF in a parade befitting a true leader and one of the country’s finest officers, while the Chief of the SANDF designated Gen Godfrey Ngwenya was given the baton to steer the SANDF to greater heights.

On the morning of 30 May 2005 the Thaba Tshwane Military Sports Ground was under siege as a parade characterised by military professionalism at its best and in a form of the brigade in review took place, in addition to a fly-past, and a 17-gun salute, spiced and serenaded by the sweet duet by the National Ceremonial Guards singers with the Italian version of “Time to say goodbye”, followed by a standing ovation for Gen Nyanda on an illustrious career and devotion to duty that spanned over 30 years.

The Commander in Chief of the SANDF, President Thabo Mbeki, Mrs Zanele Mbeki, our First Lady, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, the Minister of Defence, Mr Ronnie Kasrils, the Minister of Intelligence, parliamentarians, Mr January Masilela, the Secretary for Defence, Chiefs of Services and Divisions, members of the diplomatic corps and captains of industry were among the esteemed dignitaries who graced this prestigious and moving parade with their presence.

When Gen Nyanda took over command of the SANDF in May 1998, he had a dream: “That the Defence Force of the future will reflect the demographics of the country. All South Africans should be welcomed in it. All should be able to rise to the highest position of responsibility, irrespective of race, religion, gender or creed.” His appointment was made at a time of great challenges and adversity for the SANDF. The unprecedented integration of seven different forces was a painful affair; the defence budget was plummeting downwards as though out of control and with no end in sight. There were serious concerns about block obsolescence in the SANDF, particularly in the SA Navy, which had largely been overlooked in the acquisition of main equipment in the former SADF.

We were not trusted by our regional partners and the wider international defence community because of the destabilisation and conflicts which the apartheid regime’s forces had sponsored, promoted and unleashed. We were emerging from isolation and from being a pariah state. Pacifists and detractors were enjoying our unilateral disarmament and claimed that there were no security threats faced by the country, and that we had no experience of peacekeeping operations. We were not a cohesive force, there was mutual suspicion and recriminations were common, and the top structure of the SANDF, the Services and of race, religion, gender or creed.” Our SANDF is more cohesive than ever.
Divisions, was almost entirely white and male.

**Gen Godfrey Ngwenya - new Chief of the SANDF**

Gen Godfrey Ngwenya was born in Johannesburg on 28 April 1950. He attended Orlando High School, where he matriculated in 1970. He joined the ANC and the ANC's Military Wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK), at the height of the student uprisings in South Africa in 1976. While in exile he underwent military training in Angola and passed his further commanders' courses in the then German Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union.

Within MK, Gen Ngwenya held responsibilities such as Military Instructor, Camp Commissar at various camps in Angola (1979-1981), and then he commanded all MK forces in Angola from 1983 to 1988. From 1988 to 1991 he was a member of the MK Army Headquarters. He was Chief of Personnel and Training at the former MK Army HQ from 1991 to 1994, when MK was integrated with the former SADF to form the SANDF. After the integration process he was appointed as Major General and served as Deputy General Officer Commanding of Witwatersrand Command in Johannesburg from 1994 to 1996.

From 1996 to 1998 he was General Officer Commanding of North West Command in Potchefstroom and from 1998 to the end of September 1999 Chief Director Force Preparation in the Army Office. He served as Deputy Chief of Joint Operations from 1 October 1999 to 31 December 2000. He was promoted to the rank of Lt Gen on 1 January 2001 and appointed as Chief of Joint Operations. Since the establishment of the SANDF in 1994 Gen Ngwenya has attended the Orientation Course for officers, the Senior Army Staff Course (1996) and the Joint Staff Course (1998).

**Final address**

In his final address, Gen Nyanda said that today the SANDF was more cohesive than ever. We are able to plan with greater certainty because we are sure of the size of the budget allocation and the SA Navy is no longer in dire straits. Excellent vessels have been acquired for it, and 5th generation fighters are in the pipeline for the SA Air Force, as are other aircraft. We are now focusing on the re-equipping of the SA Army. More and more black officers and non-commissioned officers have assumed important responsibilities, as well as command and staff positions. Morale and discipline have consequently improved.

"Today the human resource component is gradually transforming. We are rejuvenating the SANDF. Fine young men and women, both black and white, with no ideological baggage, continue to swell the ranks of the SANDF through the Military Skills Development (MSD) programme. Consensus has grown that the SANDF is an indispensable instrument to assist Government in its foreign policy objectives, that it has been and will remain an important element in the fight against crime on land, in the air and on the high seas. The stature of the SANDF is at an all-time high. I leave it on such a high. I leave knowing that what I set out to do, I have done to the best of my ability," declared Gen Nyanda.

He warned that we must not underestimate the threats to our effectiveness and efficiency. Discipline must remain uppermost in our minds.
re-evaluation for them to remain effective.

His parting shot to all the uniformed members of the SANDF and to the men and women on parade was: “You on parade today, you present here in your varied splendid uniforms: be sure to walk with your heads up high. You have every reason to be proud of your uniform, not only for its magnificent splendour, but for what it represents to the general public and to the world at large. To the South African public, you represent hope and relief. Relief that at last there is a defence force that does not trample on their liberties; train their weapons on them; cut short the lives of their loved ones and turn neighbours into enemies and spread fear and loathing”.

The South African public has a dependable defence force that provides relief in case of calamity, and it has a defence force that protects their country and ensures peaceful, uninhibited, beneficial political, economic and social activity. “To the people of Africa, your uniform has come to symbolise hope: that at last they might break away from the clutches of war and hunger; that they may be rid of military coups and rule by tyrants who impose their will on them; that the vast economic potential locked in the bowels of their soil may be freed to serve the peoples of the continent and give rise to hope for the dawn of the African Renaissance.”

The function after the parade

After the official parade, invited guests attended a function at the Thaba Tshwane City Hall, where a well relaxed Gen Nyanda emerged to tell the audience that one of the perks that he will be taking with him from his job, is his title of General that he will keep for life and that he will...
spend the better part of his retirement taking to task all of those who refer to him as Mr Nyanda and, worst of all, comrade Ghebuza. His last advice to his worthy successor was: "Take up golf, enjoy the hard work that starts at six in the morning, the thrills of authority, power and the loneliness of command".

**Paying tribute**

Paying tribute to his predecessor, Gen Ngwenya said that the seven years that Gen Nyanda was in command as the Chief of the SANDF were most challenging, but he undertook to serve his country with loyalty, courage, dignity and honour. He performed his duties and carried out his responsibilities with zeal and diligence. Gen Ngwenya added that the SANDF was faced with bigger national issues to tackle, such as to raise readiness to the required level, to be ready to meet the demands of the situation and to tackle the headache imposed on us by the thorny health problem.

"I am certain we shall emerge victorious, because you are leaving behind a capable administration consisting of committed and dedicated men and women," Gen Ngwenya concluded.

**Gen Godfrey Ngwenya, the new Chief of the SANDF.**

Right: Gen Siphiwe Nyanda inspecting the brigade.
(Photo: F Sgt Amelda Strydom)
Our Army bids our Chief farewell

By Col B.J. van den Berg, COS ASB Bloemfontein

The SA Army held a farewell parade for the outgoing Chief of the SANDF, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, in Bloemfontein on 19 May 2005.

This parade was hosted by the Army Support Base Bloemfontein and all SA Army units in Bloemfontein. The format of this prestigious event was a mechanised parade with a battalion en masse.

The Army Support Base Kroonstad Band performed during the parade. Bloemspuit Air Force Base (16 Squadron and 87 Air School) provided the helicopter fly-past with one Rooivalk, one Oryx and two Allouette helicopters. A 17-shot gun salute was fired by Artillery Mobilisation Regiment with four G1 guns (25 pounders).

44 Parachute Regiment gave a free-fall parachute display with eight free-fall jumpers, and presenting a scroll containing a farewell message to Gen Nyanda:

“There are three kinds of people:
There are those who make things happen.
There are those who watch things happen.
There are those who wonder what happened”.

In the SA Army we are proud to say you are one of those who made things happen.

To quote Christopher D. Kolenda “Leadership is about trust - trust in the leader’s vision, trust in the leader’s competence and character, trust in the leader’s respect and care for those under his charge. Successful leaders earn the trust of others, and in doing so inspire the voluntary spirit and act of following”.

We would like to thank you for your visionary leadership.

Gen Nyanda inspected the parade mobile, riding in an old Eland armoured car.

The battalion's defiladed march past was followed by the SA Armour Museum vehicles and the conventional mechanised columns.

The Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Solly Shoke, and members of the SA Army Council also participated in the parade by saluting Gen Nyanda during the final general salute. This was the first time that this ceremony was part of a Chief of the SANDF farewell parade.

The mechanised vehicles also took part in the reveille order march/movement, which was very special and spectacular. The Chief of the SANDF thanked the SA Army for growing into a formidable force since 1994. He also said that he was satisfied to leave a good Army behind. Gen Nyanda praised the planners and executors of the parade.

The parade was followed by a cocktail function at the ASB Combined Club where the ASB choir and the National Ceremonial Guard Entertainment Group performed. Lt Gen Shoke handed the SA Army's farewell gift (a computer) to Gen Nyanda. The GOC Artillery Formation handed Gen Nyanda a shell that was fired during the parade as a token to take home.

Gen Nyanda’s farewell parade was executed in style and will be remembered for years to come as an excellent event. Thank you to all Services, formations, units and individuals involved.
Air Force parting for our Chief

By Lt Col Frans Schoombee, Acting SSO Corp Comm, DCSS

The SA Air Force’s farewell function for the Chief of the SANDF, Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, was hosted at Hoedspruit AFB on 18 May 2005. Gen Nyanda had come to the end of his career in the SANDF. He has served the SANDF as the Chief of the SANDF for the last seven years with great pride, dedication and dignity.

The historical event commenced at 14:30 in the afternoon when Gen Nyanda arrived on a rugby field in the Hoedspruit AFB residential area in an Oryx helicopter flown by Capt Tanya Livingstone from 19 Squadron and her co-pilot, Lt Clarita Frylink.

The Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, and the Officer Commanding Hoedspruit AFB, Col Tobie du Toit, marched out to the helicopter to welcome him. Gen Nyanda joined the marching party which accompanied him to the front of an Air Force quarter guard that was formed to present arms to symbolise the Air Force’s final salute to Gen Nyanda. After this ceremony the marching party withdrew and joined the rest of the Air Force’s top structure at the side of the sports field for the afternoon’s proceedings.

More compliments to the outgoing Chief were to follow with a special flying programme to salute Gen Nyanda for his commitment to the SA Air Force. The programme included two Oryx flag carriers with the National and Defence Force Flags, followed by a formation of two Rooivalk and Allouette helicopters, four formations of four Impalas and a formation of four Cheetahs symbolising the Chief’s four stars. The programme then proceeded with a solo Impala and Cheetah air display, after which the final salute for the day was given by a nine-ship Cheetah formation tearing open the peaceful skies of Hoedspruit.

The guests next went to the Drakensig Community Hall where they were entertained by choirs and traditional dancers from the SA Air Force and the local community. The AFB Makhado Choir, a school choir from the Independent School in Hoedspruit, a quartet from the Air Force Mobile Deployment Wing and traditional dancers from Acornhoek were all part of the afternoon’s enjoyment.

Lt Gen Gagiano addressed all the guests and paid a final tribute to Gen Nyanda, highlighting a few milestones of his career. Lt Gen Gagiano also thanked him for all his support of the SA Air Force during his period of leadership of the Defence Force and handed over a computer notebook as a token of the SA Air Force’s appreciation for his contributions.

The Chief received the gift and responded to Lt Gen Gagiano’s message by thanking the SA Air Force for its commitment and successes achieved with every step of the transformation process and the migration of the SANDF and the SA Air Force during the last eleven years.

Well done to the Officer Commanding Hoedspruit AFB, his personnel and DCSS for a very memorable and successful SA Air Force farewell to Gen Siphiwe Nyanda.

Gen Siphiwe Nyanda, the Chief of the SANDF, and Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, the Chief of the SA Air Force, and guests looking at flying formations at the farewell parade.
When the first deployment of the SANDF Specialist Contingent under the auspices of the United Nations Mission was deployed to the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC 1) in 2001, to help bring about peace, no one would have thought that it was going to make a significant contribution considering that South Africa had no experience in peacekeeping operations.

"Today, less than four years later, the work of the Department of Defence in supporting the Government's diplomatic initiatives to help eradicate conflicts in the region and the continent is beginning to bear fruit in that democratic processes are already under way in Burundi, and that similar processes are likewise in progress in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Working through SADC and the African Union (AU) the RSA Minister of Defence, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, who is the current chair of the Interstate Security and Defence Committee, has been hard at work to ensure that not only Burundi and the DRC attain their objectives of achieving a lasting peace, but that such objectives are achieved elsewhere on the continent, including Côte d’Ivoire. His recent visits to the DRC and Côte d’Ivoire bear testimony to this.

In mid-May this year Minister Lekota visited Kamina in the eastern DRC to witness the passing-out parade of an integrated brigade of armed forces, who had been at each other’s throats. The brigade had been trained according to the Tripartite Alliance arrangement between South Africa, Belgium and the DRC.

This brigade is part of a process which will eventually result in a single unified Congolese National Defence Force. This process is critical for ensuring stability in that country, and Minister Lekota says he is encouraged by the fact that other European countries have also shown an interest in supporting the Demobilisation, Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR) process. Once completed, the various former armed forces, which have been fighting to protect their own interests, will act in the interests of the Constitution of the DRC. This will include safeguarding the forthcoming elections.

While in Kamina Minister Lekota...
Former enemies, now comrades in arms, held their passing-out parade in Kamina.

The passing-out parade of an integrated brigade of armed forces trained according to the Tripartite Alliance arrangement between South Africa, Belgium and the DRC.

Memorial Service at Bay's Hill

Compiled by Maj James du Toit, Editor Ad Astra

On 8 May 2005 the SA Air Force held a memorial service at Bay’s Hill in Thaba Tshwane to commemorate VE Day, so called for Victory in Europe, the day the Allies celebrated the defeat of Nazi Germany - the end of World War II. With it came the end of six years of misery, suffering, courage and endurance across the world.

During the war at least 50 million people paid with their lives, of whom 10 million were combatants. 40 million civilians bore the brunt of the destruction. South Africa contributed to the destruction of an evil ideological system by participating on the Allied side of the war.

The SA Air Force took part in the service by recalling to memory the more than 3 000 of its own members who gave their lives in the service of their country in times of both war and peace. After playing the last post, a two-minute silence and a fly-past of three Impalas commenced.

Wreaths were laid by the Chief of the SA Air Force, Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, the National President of the SA Air Force Association, Mr Leon du Plessis, next of kin of members who lost their lives over the years in active service and Lt Col Lee, on behalf of the Embassy of the Republic of Korea.

Wreaths were also laid on behalf of other organisations as a sign of remembrance.
Assistance in Burundi elections

By Capt Felicia van Staden,
4 SAI Bn Comm Officer

The municipal elections were the first on the electoral calendar of Burundi and took place on 3 June 2005. The voter turnout across the 123 communes was 72%.

One of the areas of responsibility of the RSA Battalion (4 SA Infantry Battalion) in Burundi is Kabezi, where Bravo Company is currently deployed.

In the Kabezi there have been shooting incidents, the aim of which was to disrupt the election process.

The Company Commander, Capt Dikgang Tabane, and his Second in Command, Lt Sindane, handled the situation in a very calm and professional manner.

The soldiers of Bravo Company were very active and professional and assisted the people where they could. The voters were very grateful to the South African soldiers, who accepted them and treated them so well. This is once again proof of the hospitality and professionalism of the RSA Battalion (4 SA Infantry Battalion) in Burundi.

VE Day celebrations

Compiled by Maj Joy Christie,
Corp Comm Officer Ysterplaat
AFB, and Mr Chris Teale, SAAF
Museum: Ysterplaat AFB

8 May 2005 was at first rather chilly. A parade was being held in Hangar 3 at Ysterplaat Air Force Base to commemorate that momentous event 60 years ago, the unconditional surrender of the Axis Forces in Germany, which signalled the end of World War II in Europe, hence the day is called "VE Day" - Victory in Europe. Outside the SA Air Force Museum, flags representing the majority of the nations involved flew in a strong breeze, which brought a burst of colour to a grey sky.

After the parade the participants were invited to the opening of an exhibition at the museum. The guest speaker was Judge Dennis Davis.

Veterans representing the SA Air Force Association, the Royal Air Force Association, the MOTH, the Cape Corps Regimental Association and many other organisations arrived resplendent in their uniforms with medals that were testimony to their wartime experiences. Suitable music was provided by the Riverboat Jazz Band, which went down memory lane and played all the wartime tunes and songs much to the delight of the audience.

The exhibition was mounted utilising artworks and installations produced by two Cape Town schools, Abbott’s College of Claremont and the Cape German School. The works were extremely evocative and revealed an unexpected understanding of the event and the consequences of unending armed conflict in terms of human life and the impact on the environment. Much of the work was based on the oral testimony of the pupils’ grandparents who had been contacted as far afield as Germany and the UK. In his address Judge Davis remarked that he was astounded by the quality and depth of understanding of the issue by Grade 10 and 11 students, and at the same time he praised the SA Air Force for encouraging children to participate in the museum process rather than view heritage as remote spectators.

The exhibition has been experienced by over 500 people since the opening. It stays in place until the end of August when the artworks and installations will be returned to the respective schools for inclusion in the students’ year end marks. The SA Air Force Museum has plans to approach the schools again in relation to future projects.
Commemorate the ending of World War II in Europe

By Lebohang Letaoana
Photos: F Sgt Amelda Strydom

More than 200 veterans attended the 60th anniversary of the commemoration of the ending of World War II in Europe (VE Day) held at the Rand Regiment’s Memorial in Johannesburg on 8 May 2005.

The ceremony, which attracted many people, was also attended by Mvelaphanda Chairperson, Mr Tokyo Sexwale, and Lt Gen Temba Matanzima, the Chief of Corporate Staff, on behalf of the Chief of the SANDF.

Veterans’ associations and the SANDF members laid wreaths at the memorial site to pay tribute those who lost their lives. World War II was the most extensive and costly armed conflict in history, involved most of the world’s nations, was fought simultaneously in several major theatres, and cost approximately 55.5 million lives. The war was significant in that it was the first war in which air power was a significant factor. The war also saw the re-emergence of the United States from isolationism, the destruction and rebuilding of Germany and Japan into major industrial powers, the advent of the atomic bomb, and the emergence of the United States and the Soviet Union as global superpowers. The war also led directly to the founding of the United Nations by the victorious Allies in order to prevent such a large and destructive conflict from ever happening again. The war caused more civilian casualties than any war in history. This was partly due to its unprecedented scale, the first use of mass aerial bombings against civilian populations, and the first application of industrial age technology for the mass killing of unwanted civilians in extermination camps. In total World War II caused the deaths of about two percent of the population of the world.

The National Flag was lowered to half mast at the memorial service to commemorate the ending of World War II in Europe.

Leading the way: Representatives of the different veterans’ associations and regiments.

Some of the wreaths on display during the memorial service.
Celebrating Victory in Europe (VE) Day

By Maj Gen Mohato Dan Mofokeng, Chief Defence Corporate Communication

Photo: F Sgt Amelda Strydom

World War II was the largest and most violent conflict in human history and it not only exposed millions of innocent people to unimaginable suffering, it ruined the economies of the leading nations of the world. On 8 May 2005, South Africa joined the rest of the world in celebrating the 60th anniversary of the end of World War II in Europe. On this day in 1945 Germany’s surrender ended the war in Europe, although hostilities continued in Asia until Japan finally surrendered.

The war, which started in 1939 with Germany as the aggressor, eventually involved the majority of world states on every continent except Antarctica. The Axis powers consisted primarily of Germany, Italy and Japan and aligned against them were the Allied forces of which the Soviet Union, the United Kingdom and the United States were the Big Three. The British Commonwealth, Poland, France, Belgium, China and the Netherlands were also members of the Allies. Many countries remained neutral, but they provided military volunteers and other forms of support either to the Allies or the Axis.

From 1939 to 1945 fighting occurred across the Atlantic Ocean, in Western and Eastern Europe, in North Africa, the Middle East, the Mediterranean, the Pacific and much of East Asia and South-East Asia. During this global war the most shocking brutalities against humanity occurred, with the Nazis alone imprisoning and exterminating an estimated twelve million people. Reports and photographic images of German police and the SS murdering terrified, hastily rounded up aged men and children will never be forgotten. The world, and Europe in particular, found themselves in this catastrophe because of a loss of the moral strength required to oppose everything that was pushing them into this war.

South Africa contributed to the success of the Allied forces by hosting the Joint Air Training Scheme, and by sending troops to restore the sovereignty of Ethiopia and countering the Italian threat to East Africa. In addition, we safeguarded Madagascar against possible Japanese invasion and mobilised thousands of civilians to engage in war production in the factories, the fields, the mines and in industry. At the peak of the war 335 000 South African men and women were in uniform, with 9 500 making the ultimate sacrifice. South Africa’s support of the Allied forces was costly, but our contribution definitely changed the course of world history. During World War II approximately 57 million people died as a result of the war, including acts of genocide. Thousands of people were displaced or missing, infrastructure and economies were destroyed and for many the suffering after the nuclear explosions merely continued.

In 1945 a new international order, represented by the United Nations, was constructed in an attempt to prevent global war from ever happening again. Post-war Europe was partitioned into Western and Soviet spheres of influence, which eventually led to the division of Germany and the Cold War. The end of World War II was not the beginning of global peace. For decades nations refused to reconcile, forgive, or share resources.

Today many conflicts continue to tear nations apart in different parts of the world. There are tragedies which continue to affect countless innocent victims, whose cries of terror and suffering are a challenge to the conscience of all decent men and women.

The lesson learnt from World War II is that we now understand that totalitarianism destroys fundamental human freedom and tramples upon basic human rights. Also, that manipulation of public opinion with the incessant barrage of propaganda makes it easy to yield to the attraction of violence and weapons. This in the end overturns our very human sense of responsibility.

Now, sixty years after VE Day, there is reason to celebrate. Germany has been united and Europe is...sixty years later.
enjoying peace. South Africa held its first democratic elections and rejoined the world community and is no longer a pariah state. The African Union (AU) was founded and became the principal organisation to promote peace, security and stability on the African continent. The importance of unity and solidarity among African nations, regional socio-economic integration and the promotion of democracy are objectives promoted by the AU.

After decades of inter and intra-state wars, many African leaders have accepted the responsibility of ending conflict in their regions. Human and people’s rights became a sensitive and paramount issue as Africans could not continue to allow atrocities such as genocide or any form of ethnic cleansing, the abuse of innocent women and children or the exploitation of our continent’s natural resources.

Today, our country is contributing again to the changing of history, but this time it is the history of Africa. South Africans are once again voluntarily contributing to the establishment of peace. By deploying our troops under the auspices of the United Nations and the African Union, the South African National Defence Force supports our Government’s commitment to promoting peace, security and stability in Africa. Africa’s renewal is only possible in a stable environment where sustainable economic growth and development can eradicate poverty, unemployment and hunger. Hopefully in another sixty years’ time, the world will celebrate the victory of the African Renaissance.

* The Tshivenda translation of this article is available on pages 21 and 22. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.

Duvha la u Pembelela
Gundo la Yuropa (VE)

Ndgwa ya Vhuvhili ya lifhasi yo vha yone khudano khulwana kha divhazwakale ya vhuthu nahnone a yo ngo disela vhathu vha si na mulandu thambulo ye ya vha i songo lavhelelwa fhedzi, yo vhaisa ikonomi dza mashango mahulwane a lifhasi. Nga la 8 Shundunthule 2005, Afurika Tshipembe lo tangana na mashango othe a lifhasi kha u pembelela anivesari ya vh 60 tshe ndwda ya lifhasi ya vhuvhili ya fhela Yuropa. Nga heli duvha nga 1945 u dinekedza ha Germany ho ita uri ndwda i fhela Yuropa, naho khudano dzo di bvela phanda Asia u swikela Japan li tshi dinekedza. Ndgwa, ye ya thoma nga 1939 nge Germany ya leva, yo mbo di katela na vhunzhi ha mashango a lifhasi kha mazhango othe nga nda ha Antarctica. Mashango ane a ima na Germany o vha a tshi katela Italy na Japan nahnone mashango e a vha a tshi khou Iwa nao ndi Mashango a Pfano ane a katela Soviet Union, United Kingdom na United States. O vha one Mahulwane Mararu. British Commonwealth, Poland, France, Belgium, China na Netherlands na one o vha e mirado ya Pfano. Mashango manzhi o vha a songo dzlia sia, fhedzi o netsedza maswole a u dinekedzela na thu solo yo fhambanaho kha Mashango a Pfano kana ane a ima na Germany.

U bva nga 1939 u swika 1945 ho thuma o lwisa u buda Danzhe la Atlantic, Yuropa Vhubvaduvha na Vhukovhela, Afurika Devhula, Vhubvaduvha-Kati, Mediterranean, Pacific na hunzhi ha Asia Vhubvaduvha na Asia Vhukovhela na Asia Tshipembe-Devhula. Nga hei ndwda (Continued on page 22)
S A S O L D I E R  •  J U L Y  2 0 0 5

Continued from page 21)

ya lihisi lothe ho vha na tsitshu tshi ofisah o kha vhathu, MaNazi vha vhothe vha tshi valeda na u vhulaha vathu vha linganaho milioni dza fumimbili. Mvihigo na zwifanyiso zwa mapholis a Germany na a SS vha tshi vhulaha vhakalaha na vhana vhe vha vho tshuwa zwi nga si hangwwe. Lihisi, na Europa, vho di wana vhe kha hehsi tshiwo nga mulandu wa uri vho vha vha si na maanda o teaho a u thivhela zwitsho zwothe zve zva vha zwi tshi khou vha kombetshedza u dzhenelela kha hei ndwanda.

Afurika Tshipembe lo dzhenelela kha u kunda ha Mashango a Pfano nga u thoma Tshikimu tsha Ngudo nga 1945 ho vha na ndaela (order) na thvho ho vha na thoma Tshikimu tsha Ngudo kha u kunda ha Mashango a Pfano Italy dza u govhela Afurika na u rumela mmbi dza u ndwa ya fhedzi u Afurika ha u govhela. U mazwifhi a sa gumi zwi ita uri zwi tshiwo nga mulandu teaho a u thivhela zwitsho zwasho zwiko.

*a* The English version of this article is available on pages 20 and 21. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.
Shaking hands with industry

By Nelda Pienaar
Photo: F Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The Chief of the SA Army, Lt Gen Solly Shoke, hosted a breakfast with the captains of industry and the management of Armscor at the Paratus Club of the SA Army College in Thaba Tshwane on 25 May 2005.

The aim of the breakfast was to introduce the Chief of the SA Army to the captains of industry and the management of Armscor. It also served as a gesture of goodwill towards industry by acknowledging the vital role it plays in sustaining a sound defence-related industry.

The red carpet was rolled out for the guests to the sound of drumming. The drummers were members of the National Ceremonial Guard. Inside the imposing Paratus Club the three-man military band from Kroonstad - Sweet & Gentle - played glorious chamber music. A boom of four cannon shots announced the beginning of the proceedings in the true traditional military manner. During his speech Lt Gen Shoke urged his guests to commit themselves to their social responsibilities and to support the military community by providing funds for a hospice for members and their dependants with HIV/AIDS.

The civilian guests left with more insight into our Army and with memorable gifts with compliments from the Chief of the SA Army.

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Ukulalamela zamabubulo

Umtloli nguNelda Pienaar
Isithombe: F Sgt David Nomtshongwana


Umqopho wesiJoni seokuseni leSewula Afrika ekalawulunilile bali-bububulo kanye nebaphathi ne-Armscor. Lomhlango no ubuye wasi a ekwakhweni umnoya omuhle kwelamubulo ngokuthabella indima, eqakathekileko edlaliwa bali-bububulo ekwakhweni ibubulo eliqinileko lokurhelebha kwelamubulo.

Iintatanyiswezi ziyi saqhiselwa umada obovu phasi bona zikhambekhe phezu kwawo, begodu zangeniswa ngemithumbo, ukuveza ukuzihlonipha. Eghada babetha imithumbo bekumalungu waboGadi besiJhaha bemNyanya ekhethekileko. Ngaphakathi kwe-Paratus Club ehe lokhu okurarako, kwanandisa isiqhema sabathathu sebhendi yesiJoni evela eKroonstad, i-Sweet & Gentle-ngombhino ongabangilile ithhada.

Ubuntuhuquhuquhu beenganono ezine ezadumuzwa babikezela ukuthwana komnyanya lo, ngendlela ejayelekileko yesiJoni. Ngesikhathi u-Lt Gen Shoke abeka ikulumakhe, ukhuthaze imvakatjhi zakele boni zizibophelele emisebenzini yayo yeziphakatini begodu zisekele umphakathi wesijoni.

Burundian learners voiced their gratitude

By Capt Felicia van Staden,
Comm Officer 4 SAI Bn in Burundi

As part of the peace support operations in Burundi the RSA Battalion is responsible for launching quick impact projects in Burundi. This is in order to upgrade facilities and build the nation for a better future. All the quick impact projects launched are aimed at rebuilding the strategic, educational, health and social structures that have been damaged by the wars in Burundi.

On 22 April 2005 the first project of the RSA Battalion was launched in Kabezi, which is one of the red areas in Burundi. This project took approximately four weeks. It consisted of the renovation of a communal college and the purchasing of equipment for the school. The project was led by Capt Felicia van Staden, the Communication Officer of the Battalion, and WO1 Kebogile Setlhako, the RSM of the Battalion in Burundi. The renovated communal college was opened by Maj Gen Derrick Mgwebi, the UN Force Commander in Burundi, and handed over to Njahombaye Felicien, the Administrator of Kabezi. Once again South Africa has managed to win the hearts of the Burundians and has encouraged and promoted peace in their country. The day was a great success and the community of Kabezi welcomed us with open arms. The choir of the RSA contingent, led by Chaplain Sello Moseri and Chaplain Mkhangeli Blom, was also present to assist in community building. It touched the hearts of the community of Kabezi with the beautiful songs that it sang. The response from the learners touched us deeply as they responded saying: “We have no presents with which to thank you, but we give you our hearts.”

Leading our soldiers in Burundi

Meet the Officer Commanding and the RSM of 4 SAI Bn in Burundi - Lt Col E. Ramabu (left) and WO1 K.S. Setlhako - at the Palace Base Bujumbura. They are the new commanders of the RSA Battalion deployed in Burundi. These members, together with the Battalion, officially took over duty from 15 SAI Bn in the Mission Area on 28 January 2005. The RSA Battalion’s area of responsibility is in Kabezi, Mwaro and Muramvya. C-Company is currently deployed in Kabezi.

Civic education does exist

The DOD Joint Training Formation held its Civic Education Rejuvenation seminar at the Naval Mess in Pretoria on 14 April 2005. The aim of the seminar was to highlight the existence of the Civic Education Centre of Excellence.

The Civic Education Centre of Excellence was established to operate under the auspices of Joint Training in 1998 in order to provide civic education expert advisers, consultation doctrine, as well as training of specific learning interventions presented by services and divisions. All personnel of the DOD will receive training in civic education as contained in the Civic Education Guidelines as approved by Parliament.

In his speech Maj Gen Aaron Ntshinga, the Chief of Joint Training, said civic education was a tool to bridge the gap and harmonise the existence of armed forces with their respective countries. Today we are serving the SANDF, which is expected to support the role and importance of civil authority, in order to operate within the legal framework and to abide by the expectations of civil society.

The Centre is currently in the process of developing manuals for different levels, viz the Military Skills Development Programme, Non-commissioned Officers’ Formative and Officers’ Formative. The Civic Education Centre of Excellence also supports the Warrant Officer Academy with their learning material, as well as Project CENTURION. (Article by Lebohang Letaoana)
Soldiers assist in Burundi

By Capt Felicia van Staden, Comm Officer 4 SAI Bn in Burundi

On 3 March 2005 the RSA Battalion was once again tasked to escort a convoy of (FAB) Burundi Defence Force soldiers from Bururi to the FAB training area.

Just as in any other journey problems cropped up here and there, but nothing that these competent officers of 4 SAI Bn could not handle. The task was completed within ten hours, including the travelling and minor incidents along the way.

The Recce Platoon of the RSA Battalion was tasked to escort these soldiers from the area where they were deployed in Bururi back to Tenga for the referendum.

They have to date escorted almost 500 FAB soldiers, ie a total of fifteen full trucks.

The general feeling of the FAB soldiers was very positive towards our convoy commanders. The convoy was under the direct command of Lt Lucas More, the Recce Platoon Commander, and under the operational control of Capt Webster Maseko, the Operational Officer.

Ex-combatant women in refugee camps

On 19 and 20 February 2005 the ex-combatant women in refugee camps in Burundi were surprised to receive gifts from the International Gender Equity Forum prepared by the women in the RSA Battalion. They were handed toiletries, baby milk, and some clothing and soap. They were also addressed on matters relating to childbirth and medical kits were handed to them. Some of them still hope to be reconciled with their families. They are very positive towards the United Nations operations in Burundi. (Issued by Capt Felicia van Staden, Comm Officer 4 SAI Bn in Burundi)

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The People's Navy well and afloat

By CPO Dennis Ndaba
Photo: F Sgt David Nomshongwana

I wish all members of the SA Navy to be happy in what they are doing and for all to work together towards a common goal. To ensure a professional Navy, new standards must be set in line with the technological advancement in the hardware we operate and the people within the Navy must be empowered with knowledge and expertise. The maintenance of discipline must be upheld at all times,” the Chief of the SA Navy, V Adm Johannes (Refiloe) Mudimu, said during a media breakfast held at the Naval Mess in Pretoria on 10 May 2005.

In order to enhance security on the African continent, the SA Navy will increase its contribution to peace support operations. It will further become involved in operations within the region to root out illegal activities at sea, including weapon and drug trafficking, piracy, smuggling and the illegal poaching of resources. The SA Navy cannot do this in isolation and it is therefore imperative that it engages other navies of the African continent more vigorously to tackle these important issues together. To realise this vision the balance between cutting-edge technology and the human component must be maintained. To ensure that the competency and capability of the human resource component is achieved, strong emphasis is placed on dedicated mentoring and education, training and development that will focus specifically on mission requirements in Africa. The human element will be broadly reflective of the greater South African population.

In line with the transformation of the DOD, an important process currently under way in the SA Navy is the implementation of the recommendations of the Navy Review. The seven Navy Reserve Force units around the country have been decommissioned (closed). The SA Navy has adopted the One Force Concept where the Reserves work in an integrated manner with the Full-time Force. Each unit within the SA Navy has a 125% structure with 25% allocated to the Reserves. Reserve Force members will be called up when required in order to fill a vacancy or to obtain the necessary training in their fields of expertise. V Adm Mudimu reported the following progress with regard to the new acquisitions in the SA Navy:

**Corvettes**


**SAS ISANDLWANA** - Fully fitted out, completed Sea Acceptance Trials 1, will commence Sea Acceptance Trials 2 in October 2005.

**SAS SPIOENKOP** - Combat systems fitted, no weapons yet, conducting Harbour Acceptance Trials. 11 Sea Acceptance Trials 1 scheduled during June 2005.

**SAS MENDI** - commenced with fitting out in June 2005. Sea Acceptance Trials 1 scheduled for October 2005. Very good progress has been made with regard to the corvettes. SAS AMATOLA should be handed over to the SA Navy and commissioned towards the latter part of the year.

**Submarines**

**S101** is in the process of conducting Sea Acceptance Trials in the Baltic and Norwegian seas. She has successfully completed her dive to maximum depth. The core crewmen of S101 are currently in Germany at sea in the submarine during her Sea Acceptance Trials, which afford them the chance to gain experience on the new submarine. S101 is scheduled to be handed over to the SA Navy and to be commissioned in September 2005. She will then be conducting
work-up training until the end of the year. Once the crew has reached the required levels of competence and gained sufficient experience on the submarine, she will be sailed back to SA under her own power. A surface vessel will escort her on her maiden voyage. This is expected to be in the first quarter of 2006.

- S102 was named by Ms Seperepere in Emden, Germany, on 4 May 2005. This ceremony was attended by senior members of the SANDF and senior dignitaries, including a former Minister of Defence, Mr Roelf Meyer, who played such a key role in the transition to democracy.

- S103 is on schedule.

The SA Navy has initiated intervention measures to address the current shortfall of submariners and the representivity of the crews. Currently there are twenty officers (combat and engineering) undergoing training in India and they should graduate in October 2005 (C) and February 2006 (E). Frequent progress reports received from India indicate that these members are proceeding extremely well. The German Navy will train approximately 24 artisans in the initial course for submarines. This is scheduled to commence in September 2005. I wish to report that the quality of the relationship and co-operation between the German Navy and our own Navy is excellent.

Our ships are continuing to conduct operations such as patrols, exercises, and foreign visits. SAS DRAKENSBERG will be deploying to Portsmouth, UK, to participate in the 200-year celebrations of the Battle of Trafalgar. As part of the SA Navy’s vision to engage navies of the African continent SAS DRAKENSBERG is planned to call in at ports along the African west coast on her return voyage to South Africa. Numerous exercises are planned for the year, some of which will involve ships from the French Navy and the USN. Visits by ships from foreign countries to SA are also scheduled. These will include French, Indian and Australian ships. USN ships will visit in the latter part of the year. SAS PROTEA, the hydrographic ship of the SA Navy, is currently busy with survey work as part of South Africa’s continental shelf claim. This will continue for the next couple of years to enable South Africa to finalise its claim by 2009.

The SA Navy has been participating in peace support operations in Burundi since 2003, first as part of the African Union Mission in Burundi and now as part of the UN mission. It has been patrolling areas of Lake Tanganyika off Burundi with three harbour patrol boats (HPB). As part of our vision to become more involved in peace support operations the number of boats operated by the Navy in the region will be increased to five. The personnel compliment will also increase to forty. This will ensure that more patrols can be conducted in the region, which will result in greater security and will further improve on the successes achieved thus far.

The women in the SA Navy are coming to the fore and meeting the challenges head on. Significant achievements in the recent past include the appointment of the first female Flag Officer, R Adm (JG) Khanysile Litchfield-Tshabalala, and the qualification of the first African female diver, AB Thabs Goba. These achievements will hopefully spur other women within the organisation on to greater heights. The attendance of women undergoing military training as officers at Naval College, Gordon’s Bay, has been increased significantly this year. Currently the female uniformed component in the SA Navy stands at 16%, which is an increase of 3% from the year 2003.

People with disabilities working in the Navy are prominent in the shore establishments. They form an important part of our Navy team and will be made more visible.

"The SA Navy has made good progress, which has been achieved despite budget limitations. With the way forward clearly spelt out and planned the SA Navy will continue to achieve to the best of its ability. Our efforts will be focused on providing South Africa with a 'People’s Navy' that will be efficient, effective and economically sound. We are proud to serve the people of South Africa," V Adm Mudimu declared.

Marching with flaming torches

By Capt Stefan Schoeman, Corp Comm Officer SA Army Gymnasium

SA Army Gymnasium in Heidelberg held a Half Rank Parade during which some of the Military Skills Development System (MSDS) learners were given the ranks of Candidate Officer or Lance Corporal.

A group of almost 3 000 learners started the MSDS in January 2005 and received Basic Military Training at 3 SA Infantry Battalion in Kimberley and the Infantry School in Oudtshoorn. Some of these learners were selected to be future leaders in the SA Army and received their ranks during the parade held on 20 May 2005. The learners marched onto the parade ground with flaming torches to the tune of the song of the SA Army Gymnasium.

WO1 Eddie Sykes, the Sergeant Major of the SA Army, presented the learners with their ranks. This parade was also the symbolic opportunity for the learners to sign the Code of Conduct for uniformed members in the SANDF.

On 27 May 2005 the non-commissioned officers left for their respective corps schools in various parts of the country, while the candidate officers remained behind for the Officer’s Formative Course. When they have completed this they will leave for their corps schools on 16 September 2005.
The day before the main event

By F Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The arrival of the Chief of the SA Navy, V Adm Johannes (Refiloe) Mudimu, and the delegation from South Africa in Germany showed the importance of arrangements before the main day. On their arrival on 2 May 2005, it became clear that there was a lot of work ahead of them. The reason for their visit to Germany was to attend the naming ceremony of the South African submarine that is being built in that country.

The unveiling ceremony of the S102 submarine came a year after the introduction of the S101, which was the first of the three ships being built in Germany. The S101 is said to be doing well at sea, while the S103 is taking shape.

A dinner party was held at Emden in Germany on 3 May 2005. Some of the people who attended the party were the South African Ambassador to Germany, the Honourable M. Chikane, our Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Mluleki George, Dr Walter Kolbow, State Secretary for Defence, the Chief of the German Navy, V Adm Luzt Feldt, Ms Mittah Seperepere, who was elected by the Parliamentary Executive to unveil the S102 submarine, Dr Popo Molefe, the Chairperson of the Armscor Board, the Executive Board of the Submarine Division of Thyssenkrupp, Mr Walter Freitag, and Dr Christian Eckel, as well as the Chief of Acquisition and Procurement in South Africa, Mr Bruce Ramfolo.

In his address to the delegates the Chief of the SA Navy explained the importance of having submarines in the SA Navy. These ships do not only lend us prestige, but they will enable us to defend ourselves in time of hostilities. They are the only ones that are flexible enough to manoeuvre, to move stealthily without being noticed and to withstand unfavourable conditions; they also afford us the opportunity to defend our sovereignty anywhere at sea. They give us an advantage over those who unlawfully use our seas - illegal hunters, slave traders, illegal importers and exporters.

V Adm Mudimu also told the audience about the contribution of the submarines and corvettes to the Government's mission to help African countries and the world at large. The SANDF will strengthen the naval forces of the African countries by forging co-operation and assisting in training interventions. V Adm Mudimu emphasised the capabilities of the SA Navy that can only be realised by having facilities such as the submarines.

He added that the Government’s plan to bring peace was very important for the sake of economic growth. The ships played an important role in this by defending the state, its people and its borders. He thanked everybody who had contributed to the success of the day. He concluded by thanking the Government and the German Navy for the co-operation they had given to the South Africans. The Chief of the German Navy responded by saying that they would continue co-operating with South Africa and lending assistance wherever possible.

The unveiling ceremony

The guests who attended the unveiling ceremony of the second submarine, a class 209/1400mod, were welcomed to music played by the German Navy. Not even the rain...
Naming of the S102 submarine.

could disturb the guests. The fourth of May was a memorable day at the Noordseewerke at Emden in Germany, with representatives having come from all participants.

After the welcoming words of Dr Christian Eckel, the Deputy Minister of Defence in South Africa, Mr Mluleki George, said: "The unveiling ceremony of a name of a ship is a very important one because it is a one-off event". He pointed out that it was a great achievement and that there was still much to be done, as some facilities still had to be fitted before the vessel could set sail.

In his speech he expressed the concern of many about the ability of the personnel to navigate the ship, and also mentioned that all submarines would be steered home by our own naval personnel to South Africa. He said the SAS DRAKENSBERG could be used to accompany the S101. He explained that it was important that these submarines should go to South Africa by sea, thus affording the navigators an opportunity to gain experience on their voyage back home.

An arrangement was made for the building of the ships to coincide with the training of their crews. Apart from those who are in Germany, there are others who are undergoing their training in India, which is an advantage because the training of the latter is similar to that of the crew of the 209 Submarine. Mr George exhorted the delegates to take the economic growth of Africa into consideration and added that our coastline had to be defended. He alluded to the fact that economic growth went hand in hand with safety and wealth. In conclusion he thanked all the South Africans who were in Germany and exhorted them to work diligently.

In his sermon Capt (SAN) Langa Msengana explained how important it was that the coercive power of the State by means of military action against these lawless forces should be enforced with the aim of creating and atmosphere where God’s people live in harmony and where all who live in God’s world experience the foretaste of the Heavenly Kingdom here and now.

During the past dispensation Ms Mittah Seperepere used to fight for women’s rights. She served in different structures in the ANC and Government. At the moment she is in the accommodation business. In her speech she said that she felt honoured to have been chosen to unveil the name of the submarine. This showed that she was not forgotten, and that her actions were still remembered. The Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Mluleki George, stood next to her, and looked on intently when she lifted the axe and struck the rope to release the champagne bottle, which action broke the bottle against the submarine, thus revealing the name S102. The guests stood up to applause.

The Chairperson of the Armscor Board, Dr Popo Molefe, said that it was a great achievement for the SA Navy, Armscor and the German ship-building company (Noordseewerke). He said that he was pleased to see that Armscor had played a great part in helping the SANDF to acquire the ships. He thanked the Armscor employees and members of the SA Navy in Germany.

Talking to SA SOLDIER, a former Minister of Defence, Mr Roelf Meyer, said that it was a great pleasure to us all as South Africans in Germany to see this naval acquisition and that he hoped that those back home shared the excitement.

SA SOLDIER was on hand to find out how those who will be responsible for bringing the ship home felt, and about the arrangements and safety aspects thus far. Commander Gary Kretschmer indicated that the voyage could take forty days, which meant that they could be expected back home in April 2006. The S101 Captain said that they were undergoing intensive training, which would take six months. He pointed out that the training of the crew that was to bring the ship home was going well. He added that the technology was of a very high standard as compared with what we were used to back home, but the system is the same.

"This is the only ship that we are trained to handle; I therefore believe that we will master it. South Africans must rest assured that without doubt it will come home. We should know that submarine navigators the world over have distinguished themselves in mastering their vessels and there is no reason why we should not realise our objective. My experience in the SA Navy as a former Commander of the ASSEGAI is that the safety of individuals comes first. The loss of employees and the ship would be catastrophic. Our trainers here in Germany are also very careful about safety in everything we do." In conclusion he said that the safety of the ship, its crew and its arrival home were our priorities.

SA SOLDIER spoke to Roland Short, the captain awaiting the completion of the S102, which was still being built. He was looking on enthusiastically at the ship that he was going to command, as he visualised its

(Continued on page 30)
unveiling and commented that everything was going well, although it was not as yet comparable to the S101. Part of his training in Germany was to be the commander of ships. He said that the S102 crew had not met each other yet, because they were still under going training in their various responsibilities, but they would meet each other during November/December 2006. He also assured South Africans that they should not be concerned about the safety of the ship and crew. "We have capabilities as South Africans, and it would be a disgrace if we were to fail in our duties," he said.

* The Setswana translation of this article is available on pages 30 to 32. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Daan Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.

**Mokwadi le ditshwantsho ka F Sgt David Nomtshongwana**

o goroga e sale gale ga tlhogo ya sesole sa lesomo la dikepe Vice Admiral Johannes (Refiloe) Mudimu a na le borongwa kwa nageng ya Jeremane, go supile bothokwa jwa dipaakanyo pele ga letlha la moletlo mogolo le goroga. Kgörögong ya bone ka kgwedi ya Motsheganong e tlhola malatsi a le mabedi ka ngwaga wa 2005 go ne go bonala gore tiro entsi fa pele ga bone. Maikaelelo a thlho ya sesole sa lesomo la Dikepe Vice Admiral Mudimu le borongwa go etela naga ya Jeremane e ne e le go nna teng mo moletlong wa pulo ya leina la sekepe sa ntwa sa Africa Borwa, se o se agiwang kwa nageng ya Jeremane. Moletlo wa pulo ya leina la sekepe sa ntwa S102 o tšire morago ga ngwaga go kgakotswe S101 e le sekepe sa ntlha sa tse tharo tseo di dirwang ko nageng ya Jeremane. S101 e setse e tsweletse ditoko tsa mo metsing tseo go beg-wang di tsamaya ka thello go fitlha ga jaana. Kago ya S103 e leng sekepe sa boraro sa Afrika Borwa e tsweletse sentle.

E rile Motsheganong a tlhola malatsi a le mararo ka ngwaga 2005 go ne go tshewre moletlo wa djo tsa maitisibo ka torotswaneng ya Emden mo nageng ya Jeremane. Balalediwa e

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Mme Mittah Seperepere a bula S102 sekepe sa ntwa, Motlotlegi Mluleki George, motlatsa tona wa lefapha la phemelo, a lebeletse seo se diragalang.
ne e le moemedi wa Afrika Borwa nageng ya Jeremane motlotlegi M. Chikane, motlatsa tona wa tsa pseme-lo mo Afrika Borwa motlotlegi Mluleki George, mokwaledi wa puso mo lefapheng la phemelo Dr Walter Kolbow, Tlhogo ya sesole sa naga ya Jeremane lesemotse la Dikepe Vice Admiral Luiz Feldt, mme Mittah Seperepere yo o neng a thophihile ka khuduthamaga ya palamente go tla go bula leina la sekepe sa ntw a S102, Modulasitelo wa bote ya Armscor Ngaka Popo Molefe, maloko a bote ya karolo ya dikepe tsa ntw a ya ThysseenKrupp (Executive Board of the Submarine Division of ThyseKrupp) e leng motlotlegi Walter Freitag le Ngaka Christian Eckel le tlhogo ya theko ya dithoto mo lefapheng la bshireletso motlotlegi Bruce Ramfolo (Chief of Acquisition and Procurement).

Tlhogo ya sesole sa leselema le dikepe Vice Admiral Mudimu fa a ne a eme ba tla moletlong ka lefoko o thalositse bothokhw a jwa go nna le dikepe tsa ntw a mo Afrika Borwa. Dikepe tse tsa ntw a ga di re beye fela mo mmaenong a a thopileng, di tla refa re tshiame lo ya go ibshizelela le go sireletsa di tswa metsing tsa Afrika Borwa. Ke tsona fela tse di nang le mokgwa o o iphihepileng wa go nna bonolo, go phunyella, go filthla bonolo karologong tshitlo tsa metsi, go kgona go kukuna ntle le go lemodi, go ihoshoko maemo a a boima le tshiame-lo lo go bao ba dirisang lewatle la ron a ka tsetla e e re sa e siamang, go tsoma go se lo go a fa ka molaong, go rekisa batho, go tlisa go tla le gape le bao ba dirisana le naga le tsetla e go bontshitseseng mo ma Afrika Borweng. Tlhogo ya sesole sa leselema le Dikepe la Jeremane Vice Admiral Luiz Feldt, fa a ikarabela mo puong ya gagwe ya tswelela. A leboga le bao babileng le sebe go filthla ga jaana gore dithulaganyo tshitlo di be di tsaalone sentle.

O feleditsele ka go leboga puse le sesole sa leselema le dikepe la Jeremane ka tirisano mmogo eo ba e bontshitseseng mo ma Afrika Borweng. Tlhogo ya sesole sa leselema le Dikepe la Jeremane Vice Admiral Luiz Feldt, fa a ikarabela mo puong ya gagwe ya tswelela. A leboga le bao babileng le sebe go filthla ga jaana gore dithulaganyo tshitlo di be di tsaalone sentle.

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S A S O L D I E R  •  J U L Y  2 0 0 5

(e tsweletswa go tloka mo page 31)

ke le lelele thata re tshwanetse go le sireletsa. Kgolo ya ekonomi le tshirolesegeng di tsamayelana le boitekanelo, moruo wa nga, a konosetsa ka go leboga ma Afrika Borwa ao a leng nageng ya Jeremane go dira tiro e e manonthotho.

Tirelo ya tshogfatso ya sekepe eleng mofuta wa class ya bobedi 209/mod e ne e tshwerwe ka Kept (SAN) moruti langa Msengana. Mo therong ya gagwe o tlohalositse fa e le maikarabelo a sesole sa puso go ela tlhoko bathhabani bao ba senang molao kgotsa tsamaiso e e sa lolamekang. Ka go dira jaalo ba tla be ba rotloetsa seemo se se edileng mme, batho ba Modimo ba tla tshela ka kagiso, kgone go dira go dira ya ho ka bokgong bo feletseteng. Batho botlhe bao ba dirang mo lefatshe Langoma la Modimo ba tla itsemogela puso ya magodimo ba sa le mo lefatshe.

Mme Mittah Seperepere e a ne le molwela ditshwanele tsa basadi mo lefatsheng. Mogela puso ya magodimo ba sa le mo lefatsheng la Modimo ba tla itselela tsa basadi mo lefatsheng. Batho botlhe bao ba dirang go dira go ya ka bokgong bo fetsa ba le baka la gore goreng re sa ye tsona le go di itse ka botlalo mme, kgone go dira jaalo ba tla be ba rotloetsa seemo se se edileng mme, batho ba Modimo ba tla tshela ka kagiso, kgone go dira go dira ya ho ka bokgong bo feletseteng. Batho botlhe bao ba dirang mo lefatshe Langoma la Modimo ba tla itsemogela puso ya magodimo ba sa le mo lefatshe.

Ngaka Popo Molefe e leng modutlhatla ka nna matlhabisa ditlhong a fetsa le lefatsheng. Le ene o itumeleng ya gore go tla gae go fitlha ga jaana. Re ikaeletse go tshireletse mo go sengwe le sengwe. Re ikaeletse go tshireletse mo go tla gae go fitlha ga jaana.
The Chief of the SANDF designate, Lt Gen Godfrey Ngwenya, relinquished his position as Chief of Joint Operations with much aplomb in a parade characterised by military precision and professionalism held at the SA Air Force Gymnasium in Thaba Tshwane on 25 May 2005. This also applied to former Chief of Joint Support, Lt Gen Sipho Binda, who took over command as the new Chief of Joint Operations. It was home sweet home for Lt Gen Binda, since he had a short stint with the Division after its birth as Deputy Chief of Joint Operations.

The birth of the SANDF on 27 April 1994 necessitated a transformation to establish a defence force that would fulfil its obligations to the South African nation, the region and Africa as a whole as spelled out by the Constitution, the Defence Act and the White Paper on Defence. One of the major outcomes of this transformation was the establishment of a single structure mandated to conduct all force employment activities: hence the establishment of the Joint Operations Division in August 1997.

According to General Ngwenya, moving from the comfort zone to the unknown is a difficult process; this migration was met with resistance, suspicion and mistrust. “With my taking up of office on 1 January 2001, I was privileged to become parent, parent of a toddler, while my predecessor, the late Lt Gen Deon Ferreira, had to take care of a new-born, which in fact was not allowed the normal development stages like that of learning to sit, crawl and walk before turning to running,” General Ngwenya added.

While the DOD was still grappling with transformation, the Joint Operations Division had to experience its first baptism of fire through Operation BOLEAS in Lesotho. This Operation was conducted in the face of severe criticism from certain quarters. It is now history that despite teething problems, we indeed emerged victorious and today we have a peaceful and quiet neighbour. At the same time the Joint Operations Division had to respond to both national and international calls for the SANDF to be involved in peace support operations. In preparation for this we successfully conducted the following exercises: Exercise BLUE HUNGWE, the first Southern African Development Community (SADC) exercise, hosted by Zimbabwe, and Exercise BLUE CRANE, the second SADC peacekeeping capacity building exercise, hosted by South Africa.

The Joint Operations Division had to go the extra mile to meet the demands to conduct military and humanitarian assistance operations simultaneously in both the RSA and in the region. Operation MALUTI was a follow-up to Operation BOLEAS, and was aimed at training the Lesotho Defence Force. It succeeded in empowering the mountain kingdom that it is now part of the peacekeeping contingent on the continent. Operation LITCHI was a humanitarian and disaster relief operation launched in Mozambique, which became an internationally acclaimed South African endeavour to save life.

In the year 2001, the SANDF broke new ground by establishing Operation FIBRE in Burundi. It was a question of breaking new ground in the sense that no one had ventured to go to Burundi at that time. The United Nations (UN) had declared that a peace mission in that part of the world was impossible. It is history that South Africa was able to deploy the SANDF over very long lines of communication within a short space of time and to sustain the mission until it was taken over by the African Union (Continued on page 34)
The worth of our National Flag

By CPO Pamela Arries,
PA of WO SANDF,
Photo: F Sgt David Nomtshongwana

The Sergeant Major of the SANDF, WO1 Jakes Jacobs, was invited by the Eersterust Secondary School to explain the significance of the National Flag on 26 April 2005. Owing to the fact that these learners are patriotic South Africans and take a keen interest in honouring our country’s National Symbols on Freedom Day - 27 April - the Sergeant Major of the SANDF donated three National Flags to the school: a ceremonial flag, a storm flag and a normal size flag. WO1 Jacobs also gave a presentation on the National Symbols of South Africa to the learners.

The learners were very grateful to the Sergeant Major of the SANDF for the time he took from his busy schedule to accede to the school’s request.

WO1 Jakes Jacobs, the Sergeant Major of the SANDF, demonstrates to the learners of the Eersterust Secondary School how to fold our National Flag.

(AU) in 2003 and finally by the UN in June 2004.

"Today, the talking point is about elections in Burundi. Suffice it to say that we were indeed able to break new ground and we paved the way for the internationally renowned and powerful AU and UN organisations. In the same year we had to establish another major deployment over long lines of communication, viz our being in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), a huge country ravaged by war and disease and having virtually no infrastructure. Let me pause and give accolades to the specialist element of the SANDF that we deployed to the DRC in addition to the South African Task Force. We have in mind the sterling job of the air cargo handlers, fire-fighting teams, our medical teams, our military police, etc,” proclaimed General Ngwenya.

It is not possible for the senior military leadership to visit the DRC without being invited to the UN HQ, where senior UN officials express their appreciation for the contributions made by members of the SANDF. Today the people of the DRC are again talking of light at the end of the tunnel. Sadly, these milestones were not achieved without our paying the supreme sacrifice of losing lives. We have to date lost a total of 28 soldiers. In this connection one can mention the drowning incident in which we lost four members in Burundi, and the six Special Forces members who died in a fire incident during mission ready training with the police.

In addition there were the incidents in 2004, where we lost six soldiers when one of our vehicles fell into a river in the DRC, and the vehicle accident where we lost two soldiers shortly after repulsing an ambush in the DRC. The names of these fallen soldiers are inscribed on the wall of remembrance for our fallen heroes at the Mobilisation Centre in Bloemfontein, thanks to the Joint Operation Division Warrant Officer’s initiative in establishing such a place.

"In retrospect, I realise that my more than four years in command were most challenging. It was also a unique learning curve. I want to thank every member of the Division for his loyal commitment and dedication to me and to the SANDF as a whole. The years have provided valuable experience for my staff and myself. The achievements indeed attest to the words of our emblem - 'fortune favours the brave,'" declared General Ngwenya. The Secretary for Defence, Mr January Masilela, Services and Division Chiefs and other dignitaries graced this auspicious occasion with their presence.

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The South African National Flag:

The ventral design which begins as a ‘V’ at the flagpole, then comes together at the centre of the flag and extends as a single horizontal band to the outer edge of the fly, can be seen as representing the union of the diverse elements in South African society, which then take the road in unity.

South Africa has four National Symbols: the SA National Flag, the Seal of the Republic of South Africa, the South African National Anthem and the South African National Coat of Arms.

Symbolism attached to the colours and design of the National Flag: No universal symbolism is reflected in the colours of the National Flag, as individual colours or combinations of colours can have widely divergent meanings for various people.

Flag stations and times when the National Flag should be flown: The national flag should be flown daily from sunrise to sunset at all flag stations.

Half-masting of the National Flag: In South Africa the National Flag should be half-masted as a sign of mourning only on instructions from the President’s Office.
Improving military relationships between countries

By R Adm (JG) George Mphafi,
Chief of Defence Foreign Relations

The Chief of Corporate Staff, Lt Gen Temba Matanzima, and the Chief of Defence Foreign Relations, R Adm (JG) George Mphafi, visited their counterparts in the United States in February 2005. This was a working visit to benchmark the organisation within the United States Department of Defence, which is tasked with similar functions to that of the offices of Chief of Corporate Staff and Chief of Defence Foreign Relations. In addition, the opportunity was also used to visit the SANDF Defence Office in Washington DC.

The programme was co-ordinated by Brig Gen T.R. Mandela, the SANDF Defence Attaché at the Defence Office in Washington.

The four-day programme of visits and courtesy calls on several institutions, included the following:

General Peter Pace, the Vice-Chairperson of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and Lt Gen Matanzima received a briefing on the joint staff roles, functions and missions, and additional information was provided for benchmarking purposes.

Maj Gen (Sel) Mike Ennis, the Deputy Director for Human Intelligence, made enquiries about the procedure and processes used by the RSA DOD regarding the handling of requests and offers of assistance from foreign attachés. Information regarding the organisation and management of USA attachés was then provided so that these could be benchmarked by Defence Foreign Relations.

The visit to the Pentagon included briefings on international security affairs affecting Africa, a briefing on the National Defence University, a briefing by the Africa Centre for Security Studies, a briefing on the National War College and a briefing on and visit to the Industrial College of Armed Forces. SANDF students have attended this college in the past.

Courtesy calls were made on the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Defence for Public Affairs, Mr Bryan Whitman, the Executive Director of the Armed Forces Chaplain’s Board, Cpln Richard Hum, and the General Counsel, Mr Heyens.

The Military Professional Resources Institute was also visited. This is a company made up of retired military personnel who provide services to the US military and other government departments with funding provided from the US DOD.

The delegation also visited the Joint Force Command at Norfolk and received briefings on Joint Force Command and the Joint Systems Integration Command, including a tour at the Joint Warfare Fighting College.

Military relations between the SANDF and the US Armed Forces have strengthened since 1994 and a strong and long-term SA-US working partnership has been established and governed by defence agreements between the two countries. One of the major projects in terms of these agreements is the HIV/Aids Prevention Programme (Masibambisane) and the HIV/Aids Treatment Programme (Phidisa).

Ongoing interactions with the US have served to highlight the important role that the US can play in supporting key initiatives such as NEPAD. The US Government has an observer representative on the NEPAD steering committee and it is important to note that the US Administration has identified Africa as a foreign policy priority, particularly with regard to trade and industry.

The visit was successful and the exposure gained by the SANDF is considered invaluable as it highlights the importance of high-level contacts for improving the military relationships between countries.
Since apartheid fell in South Africa in the early 1990s, the country has taken deliberate measures to serve its proper role in the international community. South Africa has yet to take any role in the international community as a peacekeeper. Retraining peacekeepers via distance instruction is an inexpensive but effective way for TFS, TSA and UFS to get involved. UNITAR POCI currently has eleven self-paced correspondence course available on various aspects of UN peacekeeping operations. Please read the remainder (Part II) on the above-mentioned topic. (Part I was published in the May 2005 edition of SA SOLDIER.)

Implementation

Throughout the years of the Cold War, UN peacekeeping operations were constrained by superpower rivalry and UN peacekeeping operations remained relatively small. Despite more than 80 wars (not including many of the smaller intra-state conflicts) that were fought world-wide during these years with a toll of 30 million deaths (James, 1990), only 13 UN peacekeeping and observer missions were established between 1948 and 1988 (Roberts, 1996).

UN peacekeepers were trained by their own nations: Canada, Fiji, Ireland, Ghana, India, Nigeria and the Nordic nations. There was no assumption that the UN or the international community should be expected to intervene in "small-scale" conflicts, and violent ethno-political struggles persisted throughout the Cold War (Gurr 1993, 1994, 1995; Harff & Gurr, 1995; James, 1990). When the Cold War ended and the ideological factors that had constrained UN peacekeeping vanished, the superpowers and the international community were ready to see the UN take a more proactive role in collective security. Instead of simply monitoring an established cease-fire, UN peacekeepers would undertake both military interventions and humanitarian relief missions in the face of natural disasters, man-made disasters or economic disasters.

Peacekeepers would need to be prepared to use force to impose peace on behalf of a civilian population in the face of war or anarchy and also to support post-war recovery through refugee operations, demining, disarmament, civilian police, voting assistance, and the restoration of a civil society. The number of UN peacekeeping or observer forces quickly grew as 20 new forces were created between May 1988 and October 1993. At their largest near the end of 1994, these missions were staffed by 77,783 civilian and military personnel from over 70 different nations (Boutros-Ghali, 1996, p 4). But with this expansion in peacekeeping came the recognition that peacekeepers would need to be trained to serve in a variety of demanding functions: both traditional military functions, and also humanitarian relief operations.

How would it be possible to train thousands of peacekeeping personnel from so many different nations to perform so many different functions on so many missions worldwide? How could military and civilian personnel from these nations be provided with standard, common, and universal training that would facilitate unity of function and interoperability? How could this training be provided to a large population of geographically distributed learners at short notice and at a low per learner cost? The solution seemed to lie in the use of distance education methodology, in conjunction with national training programmes.

A co-operative programme to train African peacekeepers

Since the early 1990s and the fall of apartheid, South Africa has taken its proper place in the community of nations and as of August 2002 South Africa had over 1,400 SANDF personnel serving on UN peacekeeping missions. Training peacekeepers via distance instruction is an inexpensive but effective way for TFS, TSA and UFS to get involved. UNITAR POCI currently has sixteen self-paced correspondence courses available on various aspects of UN peacekeeping, which will be used by TFS.

All sixteen are available in English, with two available in French, one in German, one in Russian, five in Spanish and three in Swahili. Currently almost 10,000 enrolments from 105 nations have been processed by UNITAR POCI and many of the students taking these courses are eligible for receiving college credits as recommended by the American Council on Education (ACE) for their UNITAR POCI courses.

These courses can be customised by researchers of the SANDF and TFS for urgent implementation in sub-Saharan Africa. As already explained, this is the overall educational philosophy of Technikon distance education co-operative teaching and this concept could be applied in experiential training for soldiers in the SANDF. The importance of the project lies in the need to instruct South African soldiers through various distance education delivery modes, ie correspondence courses, dual-contact sessions and digital education. The TFS, TSA and UFS will evaluate academic results in collaboration with The College of...
William & Mary in the United States, where UNITAR POCI personnel are based.

Why distance education andragogy to train peacekeepers

Perhaps the greatest strength of distance education andragogy is the capability of reaching a geographically distributed target population of military officers, non-commissioned officers (NCOs), civilian employees, and diplomats who need knowledge-based training. Correspondence courses of UNITAR POCI are not designed for hands-on skills, or for field exercises.

It is recognised that there are many peacekeeping skills that require the development of hands-on technical skills that can only be taught under close, direct supervision. There are also peacekeeping skills that require group co-ordination and organisation, and these can only be taught through field exercises, or other real-time group exercises. However, there are many peacekeeping topics that are cognitive or knowledge-based and can be acquired, using the self-paced printed courses offered by UNITAR POCI.

These courses offer universal training in accepted practices of UN peacekeeping and cover established doctrine, tactics, procedures, administration, organisation, theory, history and other knowledge-based topics that peacekeepers need to understand in order to serve effectively on UN missions. Individual courses are delivered to students in situ and with no need to travel or wait for a training quota. The courses range in size from 100 to 500 pages. Each course contains a series of lessons and each lesson includes lesson objectives, readings, and an end-of-lesson quiz. At the end of the course is an end-of-course examination.

Distance education and andragogy are perhaps most effective when used to reach a large population of geographically distributed learners who need standard training in knowledge-based topics and when the training has to be delivered directly to learners without delay and at a low per learner cost. It is for these reasons that the United Nations Institute for Training and Research Programme of Correspondence Instruction (UNITAR POCI) has developed a distance education training programme in peacekeeping and is currently making plans with South Africa’s TFS, TSA and UFS to offer training in peacekeeping for personnel of the SANDF and other peacekeepers from sub-Saharan Africa.

Unfortunately, recent years have provided too many examples of the need for trained peacekeepers. Yugoslavia, Rwanda, Cambodia, Mozambique, Central America, Haiti, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Georgia, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Cyprus, the Middle East and other locations around the world have all required the interventions of outside peacekeepers. Nobody has predicted that such needs will end in the coming years. The only realistic question is “Where will trained peacekeepers next be needed?” rather than “Will there be a need for trained peacekeepers?”

During the decade of the 1990s roughly half of the peacekeeping missions established by the United Nations have been on the African continent and the death toll stemming from these conflicts - and other African conflicts that still persist - has exceeded half a million. Although trained peacekeepers have often been drawn from non-African nations, many have argued that members of the African community, the Organisation of African Unity (OAU), and some of the more developed nations on the African continent, should take the lead in providing the capability for African nations to provide peacekeeping forces when needed on the African continent.

It is against this backdrop that UNITAR POCI, TFS, TSA and UFS have joined in seeking a mutual programme to provide the needed training using distance education methodology.

The way forward

The Council of the War Museum in Bloemfontein recently decided to place the War Museum in the international arena with the establishment of an institute for peace and reconciliation for the African continent, thus turning Bloemfontein into a destination for peace pilgrims from across the world (Jacobs, 2003).

The TFS, TSA and UFS researchers in peacekeeping instruction are very eager to participate in this possible joint venture and have already submitted previous research results to the director of the War Museum of the Boer Republics in this regard.

When President Thabo Mbeki launched the commemoration of the Anglo-Boer War in Brandfort on 9 October 1999 he emphasised the experience of South African society during the twentieth century - a century of war and suffering. He also stressed the fact that only after the warring factions laid down their arms and started talking did peace start to dawn on our country (Jacobs, 2003).

The suffering and uselessness of war, as stressed by Mr Mbeki, can be brought home worldwide, thus enhancing the President’s position as a promoter of peace and reconciliation through negotiations. After all, in the

(Continued on page 38)
The visitor to any war museum also learns the one vital message, namely that through telling the story of a war a greater awareness of the importance of peace is bred. Thus deeply imbedded in the message of such a museum is that it is also an instrument of peace. For is it not true that it is not the literal past, the so-called “facts” of history, that shape us, but the images of the past embodied in the artefacts of mankind Direko asked. As Martin Luther King Jr so rightly observed “…One day we must come to see that peace is not merely a distant goal we seek, but it is a means by which we arrive at that goal. We must pursue peaceful ends through peaceful means” - (Direko, 2003).

“A final thought: While many of us are willing to die or sustain wounds on the battlefield few are willing to go to the same extremes for peace!” - (Direko, 2003).

After all, the generals of the Anglo-Boer War extended their roles after the war as political leaders and international statesmen. Gen J.B.M. Hertzog established the first portfolio of Foreign Affairs for South Africa and he warned against the devastating weapons which were to be used in World War II (especially his knowledge about the interest of America in uranium) - (De Beer, 1985).

Notoriously, one of the Boer Generals, J.C. Smuts, who also became the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs (1939-1948), was the co-founder of the United Nations Organisation on the principles for world peace! It thus seems fitting to extend his ideals for world peace to the Anglo-Boer War Museum…

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http://www.wm.edu/unpeace/index.html


New Government Information Technology Officer

By Lt Col Fundile Siyongwana,
Acting SSO Communication Information
Photo: F Sgt David Nomtshongwana

Meet the newly appointed Government Information Technology Officer of the Department of Defence, Maj Gen Matie du Toit. He took up this position on 1 January 2005.

The main objective of the Government Information Technology Officer (GITO) is to ensure the effective and efficient management of information technology (IT) of the Department and reports directly to the Secretary for Defence, Mr January Masilela. His mission is to set up a fully-fledged GITO structure that will work towards building the capacity to face the challenge of properly handling the DOD requirements as far as information technology (IT) is concerned. The structure will be run by twelve competent incumbents, who will be identified as suitable for the GITO environment. Maj Gen Du Toit’s career began as an SA Air Force logistics officer who specialised in the fields of procurement, general logistics and staff functions. Since 1993 he has been involved in the IT environment and has gained experience in the planning and acquisition of IT systems for the SA Air Force. Currently he is responsible for strategic information systems planning for the Department of Defence, as well as related policy.

He is a member of the Defence Staff Council and the Defence Secretary Board. He is the Chairperson of the Command and Management Information Systems (CMIS) Staff Council and the DOD/SITA Board. He represents the DOD on the interdepartmental GITO Council and serves as a full member of the Defence Programme and Budget Evaluation Committee. Maj Gen Du Toit has played an active role in the transformation of the DOD, specifically in that of the CMIS Division.

A first for our Air Force

By Lt Col Leon Strydom,
18 Deployment Support Unit
Photo: Ruline de Bruyn

Since the establishment of the SA Air Force some eighty odd years ago, the old traditional 16x16 and 16x32 tents have been used. These tents are unique to the SANDF and to the SA Air Force during deployments and exercises, such as Exercise GOLDEN EAGLE.

Since the SANDF’s involvement with the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU) in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), the SANDF has realised and experienced that the 16x16 tents were not suitable for the extreme weather conditions, nor were they designed for long-term deployments.

In the DRC the UN makes use of the so-called Weather Haven for accommodation. This dome type of camping system, made of PVC with a wooden floor, is manufactured in Canada. Canvas and Tent, a locally established company in Ladysmith, KwaZulu-Natal, did benchmarking in Canada and developed and manufactured our own unique camping system called the Warrior Shelter. The Warrior Shelter is also dome shaped, and is locally manufactured with material that is well suited to African weather conditions. It is a semi-permanent structure, not suitable for short deployments. The SA Air Force produced its own Warrior Shelter and it must still be determined where exactly the shelter will be utilised in the future. Although the Warrior Shelter is a first for the SA Air Force, the standard 16x16 tents, which have been in use for many years, will still be required for the foreseeable future for rapid and short deployments.
As members of the SANDF, health and fitness should always remain one of our core concerns. On the military calendar the month of April is health month. 17 Squadron really got into the swing of things with the completion of our latest project, our very own gymnasium.

17 Squadron finds itself in a unique situation in that administratively it falls under Waterkloof Air Force Base, but is geographically removed from the base itself. As a result it was impractical for the members to make regular use of the gymnasium facilities of Waterkloof Air Force Base.

On the initiative of Lt Col Gerhard Crafford, Officer Commanding 17 Squadron, a project was initiated for the creation of a gymnasium facility at the unit.

The first obstacle was finding premises for the facility. Under the superb leadership of Capt Martin Visser, a pilot of 17 Squadron, the entire squadron came together in a disused room in the main hangar, which was refurbished. After some walls were torn down and holes filled, the room began to take on a new shape with the laying of carpets and a splash of paint. After thorough research and much deliberation, equipment was chosen to furnish the facility. The end result of all this hard work was a state-of-the-art gymnasium that we can proudly call our own.

4 April marked the beginning of 17 Squadron’s journey to healthier living with the opening of our new gymnasium. With freshly made health drinks and biokineticists at hand to assist the members, Lt Col Crafford opened the facility when he took to the treadmill. (Compiled by Lt Kyle Jonker and Lt Stefan King from 17 Squadron)

By Lebohang Letaoana
Photo: F Sgt David Nomthongwana

December is a "happy" month for many people, perhaps because it is the last month of the year or time to get together with family members. But for some other people like Pte Tshepo Apane it is a month they will never forget as long as they live.

Pte Apane (22), a Military Skills Development (MSD) member, was involved in a motor-car accident, which left him paralysed at Lohathla in December 2004. At that time he was busy with his Driving and Maintenance Course. Two passengers died and two had minor injuries and were later discharged. Pte Apane was paralysed in that accident.

It was when he was transferred to 1 Military Hospital that he met his occupational therapist, Ms Charmaine Masebe. She was concerned about his well-being and requested the involvement of the Disability Equity Section.

Talks were held between the Section and Stanford Computer and Business College. It was decided that an End-user Computing Course to the value of R4 350 would be donated to Pte Apane. Brig Gen Amos Somdaka, the Director Equal Opportunities Policy and Plans, said he wished to thank Ms Charmaine Lardner, the Principal of Pretoria Stanford Computer and Business College, for demonstrating her commitment to the plight of people with disabilities in such a worthy manner. Pte Apane resumed his computer course in June; this gives hope to people with disabilities that there is life after disability.

A step in a healthy direction

WO1 Eugene van der Merwe, RSM 17 Squadron, testing the state-of-the-art equipment in the gymnasium of 17 Squadron. (Photo: Capt Martin Visser)
School of Catering awarded judging status

By S Sgt Mornè Stroh,
Instructor DOD School of Catering
Photo: Maj Marina van der Merwe

On 25 February 2005 two staff members, WO1 Gordon Crosthwaite and WO1 Theo Redelinghuys, completed the SA Chef Association’s judging assessment.

This assessment consisted of both a theoretical examination and a practical evaluation in which both members received a distinction. It is not only a personal achievement for the two warrant officers, as this qualification is highly regarded and sought after in the hospitality industry in South Africa, but it is also an achievement for the DOD School of Catering.

The school frequently assists various tertiary institutions and other hospitality training centres in their judging processes - apart from the schools’ own moderators - and the knowledge with which the warrant officers can now empower the unit and its learners will surely have a direct influence on the unit’s training and assessment procedures, skills and standards.

Taking over the reigns

By Lize Ferns, Legsato Polokwane

Col Reuben Mpiilo Mbangatha was appointed as Officer in Charge of the Legal Satellite Office (Legsato) Polokwane from 1 January 2005. On 11 February 2005 Brig Gen Andrew Kobedi, the previous Officer in Charge of Legsato Polokwane, handed over the reigns to Col Mbangatha during a change-of-office ceremony at the Tactical Headquarters Limpopo. After three years in charge of Legsato Polokwane, the then Col Kobedi was promoted to Brigadier General and appointed as Director SANDF Legal Support at the Head Office of Military Legal Services.

During Brig Gen Kobedi’s farewell speech he indicated that it had been a huge challenge, but a tremendous honour to serve as the Officer in Charge at Legsato Polokwane. He lauded the personnel of Legsato Polokwane for performing their duties with zeal and diligence, despite many challenges. He expressed his appreciation of the dedication and originality of his personnel. He also stressed the importance of the valuable contribution of the Reserve Force members.

New officer in charge

Col Reuben Mbangatha was born in the village of Libode in the Eastern Cape on 12 July 1958. He matriculated in 1978 and joined the former Transkei Defence Force (TDF) in 1980. He served in the Infantry where he attended many infantry courses and was appointed as instructor at the Transkei School of Infantry. While serving in the TDF he studied part-time towards his B Iuris, which he obtained in 1991. He was then appointed as Legal Officer. In 1994 he obtained his LLB degree.

After integration in 1995, Col Mbangatha served as Military Law Officer in Umtata under the then Eastern Province Command.

In 1999 he was transferred to Chief Joint Operations and served as Operational Law Officer in Pretoria. In 2001 he returned to Umtata as a member of Legsato Durban, where he served until his appointment as OIC Legsato Polokwane.

During his time as Military Law Practitioner in the SANDF he also served as Prosecutor and Defence Counsel and attended several military legal courses in the SANDF and abroad, to wit a Law of Armed Conflict course in Italy and a United Nations Staff Course in Sweden.

Brig Gen Andrew Kobedi (left) handing over the Symbol of Office to Col Reuben Mpiilo Mbangatha, the new Officer in Charge of Legsato Polokwane.

F1tr: WO1 Theo Redelinghuys, Celebrity Chef Ready Steady Cook from Britain Ainsley Harriet, Julie Richter and WO1 Gordon Crosthwaite.
Redeployment of SANDF members to the SAPS

Compiled by Col G.S. van Eeden, SSO Corp Comm Joint Support

A unique career opportunity for members of the SANDF has arisen from an agreement reached between the DOD and the SAPS. SANDF members can now be transferred to the SAPS on a voluntary basis. The passing-out parade of the second group of SANDF members who volunteered to be transferred to the SAPS took place on 18 February 2005.

It is once again stressed that the option for SANDF members to be redeployed to the SAPS is a purely voluntary option.

### SANDF: Benefits and conditions

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### SAPS: Benefits and Conditions

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<tr>
<td>Const (level 4)</td>
<td>R49 827 to R57 852</td>
<td>L: R52 to R60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Const (level 5)</td>
<td>R58 944 to R69 123</td>
<td>L: R56 to R64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspect (level 7)</td>
<td>R89 214 to R104 769</td>
<td>L: R72 to R79</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SANDF: Benefits and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical treatment</th>
<th>Pension</th>
<th>Vacation leave</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employer contributes 15%. Member contributes 7,5% of gross monthly salary.</td>
<td>22 working days in case of less than 10 years’ continuous service. 26 working days in case of more than, 10 years continuous service. Leave accumulated before 1 April 2002 is considered as capped leave and may be taken by members. Leave gratuity payable at retirement. From 1 April 2002 leave must be taken within each cycle.</td>
<td>Polmed Medical Scheme.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SAPS: Benefits and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Medical treatment</th>
<th>Pension</th>
<th>Vacation leave</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Employer contributes 15%. Member contributes 7,5% of monthly basic salary.</td>
<td>22 working days in case of less than 10 years’ continuous service. 26 working days in case of more than, 10 years continuous service. Leave accumulated before 1 April 2002 is considered as capped leave and may be taken by members. Leave gratuity payable at retirement. From 1 April 2002 leave must be taken within each cycle.</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Members who are interested in this option should note the following:

- According to the agreement between the SANDF and the SAPS all transfers will be done on a later-al basis as far as salaries are concerned.
- The SAPS has a different rank structure to that of the SANDF. This means that a member will not necessarily be appointed in his or her current rank.
- Each selected member will be made an individual offer, based on current service benefits, as well as experience and qualifications. The comparison of service conditions and benefits is therefore for information purposes only.

**Conclusion**

It is most important to remember to be truthful when applying to be redeployed to the SAPS. Bear in mind that the SAPS thoroughly screens each application and will not select members who supply false information, e.g. with regard to pending or recorded departmental or criminal cases. Members who are interested in being redeployed should contact their unit HR office to obtain application forms.

**Enquiries:**

Maj Mzilikazi Tel: (012) 392 3134
Maj Kotsoe Tel: (012) 392 3133
Fax: (012) 392 3111

### SANDF: Benefits and conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uniform</th>
<th>Funeral</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Free uniform issued on appointment. Maintenance allowance available every 12 months.</td>
<td>At State expense for members who are killed during the execution of their duties.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SAPS: Benefits and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Uniform</th>
<th>Funeral</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>One set of uniform issued on appointment. Clothing credit of R1 200 available annually.</td>
<td>At State expense for members who are killed during the execution of their duties to a maximum of R5 000.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SANF: Benefits and conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service bonus</th>
<th>Deployment allowance</th>
<th>Housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equal to 100% of one month's salary. Payable in the month of the member's birthday.</td>
<td>Payable for internal and external deployment</td>
<td>Restricted availability of state housing. Members have to apply when vacancies arise. Members qualify for a home-owner's allowance and State guarantee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SAPS: Benefits and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service bonus</th>
<th>Service allowance</th>
<th>Housing</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equal to 100% of one month's salary. Payable in the month of the member's birthday.</td>
<td>R400 per month payable to members performing operational line function duties.</td>
<td>Restricted availability of State housing. Members have to apply when vacancies arise. Members qualify for a home-owner's allowance and State guarantee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SANF: Benefits and conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sick leave</th>
<th>Study leave</th>
<th>Group life insurance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36 working days. Normal sick leave can be utilised intermittently with 30 working days incapacity leave. Temporary and permanent incapacity leave may be extended in 3 year sick leave cycle.</td>
<td>Study leave available for examination purposes.</td>
<td>Member with dependant pays R100,37 (15% is subsidised) Qualifies for R90 000 death benefit and lump sum of R100 000 in case of permanent disability. Member without dependant pays R69,91 (15% is subsidised) Qualifies for R60 000 death benefit and lump sum of R100 000 in case of permanent disability. Medically unfit members qualify for R50 000 payment with or without dependents.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SAPS: Benefits and Conditions

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sick leave</th>
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<th>Group life insurance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>36 working days. Normal sick leave can be utilised intermittently with 30 working days' incapacity leave. Temporary and permanent incapacity leave may be extended in 3 year sick leave cycle.</td>
<td>Study leave available for examination purposes.</td>
<td>No group life scheme is available. Members to arrange on their own. Death grant of R200 000 payable to dependants when member dies in the execution of duties.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Air Force assists in Overberg floods

The Overberg region, cut off from the outside world by the worst floods since 1941, was handed a lifeline on 11 April 2005 when the weather cleared enough to allow helicopters to distribute aid in the area.

While the flood water receded around Napier, Bredasdorp and areas closer to the mountains, it rose steadily as it moved seawards onto the vast coastal plain.

As a helicopter carrying Western Cape Premier Ebrahim Rasool and housing MEC Marius Fransman skimmed over the mountains and headed down to Kleinmond and Hermanus, the swollen Bot River spread a huge muddy expanse of flood water into the sea, turning the blue water brown.

In Bredasdorp piles of silt lay on roads and, in low coastal areas such as Kleinbegin, concrete fences and many of the RDP houses were cracked. Double beds, kitchen dressers, TVs, toiletries, etc stood in the mud. Many occupants had slept at friends’ houses, as the water was a metre deep in their own homes.

Boxes of fruit, vegetables, rice, bread and bottled water were loaded into the Oryx helicopters that stood waiting in the road outside the fire department where they had landed previously.

Flying low over the coastal plain one could see roads disappearing into rivers, sheep stranded on islands, huge blue-gum trees toppled over and vast sheets of muddy water everywhere.

A helicopter circled a smallholding and the pilot, Lt Col J.C. Kriegler, headed towards it and landed on the grass outside the homestead. There was no time to shut down the engines. The crew on board the helicopter opened the doors and hauled out boxes of food. The group of people on the smallholding appreciated the help and rations, as was evident from the way they carried it away.

During the operation at least 74 people, including a pregnant woman, as well as four dogs, were evacuated from the flooded area and taken to a place of safety. Some British visitors were heard to remark: “We were so frightened, but these people have been so wonderful and we are definitely coming back to South Africa”. This served as confirmation that 22 Squadron had contributed immensely to the rescue effort.

Host the senior citizens


This occasion was one of the Air Force Mobile Deployment Wing’s social responsibilities. The purpose of the visit was to maintain the SA Air Force’s good relationship with the public. The pensioners were treated to a tour of the unit, and they were also briefed on its objectives. Capt Busingwe Nobanda, the Corporate Communication Officer of the Air Force Mobile Deployment Wing, said their next mission was to visit the kindergartens in the townships. (Article by Lebohang Letaana)
Two Oceans Marathon

On 26 March 2005 many roadrunners of the SANDF took part in the Old Mutual Two Oceans Marathon 2005 (56 km), one of the qualifying races for the Comrades Marathon. In the picture are: S Sgt Rocks Rorwana from ASB Youngsfield, running for Defence Western Province Athletics Club, who was leading the roadrunners crossing the line on top of Chapman’s Peak (Chappies) going downhill to Houtbay to take the last challenge uphill, which was the Constantia Neck, where most of the professional runners collapsed or suffered from dehydration. S Sgt Rorwana’s advice is that one must think about anything other than the pain when it sets in. “The pain will last for a week, but the achievement will last for a lifetime. The value of running is not in the speed or the distance, but the act itself.”

(Taken by Anderson Rorwana, Mitchells Plain)

Tennis development triumph

Col J.M. Nonco, Designated Military Attaché Zimbabwe (Defence Foreign Relations), started coaching clinics for previously disadvantaged children in Thaba Tshwane on his arrival in Pretoria in 2002. He started with a relatively small group of children, but his approach and negotiation skills saw him winning a sponsorship from the SAFI SPAR and Mega Sport Shop, both of Thaba Tshwane.

SAFI SPAR became the main sponsor of the Pretoria Military Tennis Development Club for juniors. On 19 March 2005 Col Nonco staged one of the most successful tournaments to mark his fourth anniversary of coaching the Pretoria Military Tennis Development Club, with Real People Sports as a co-sponsor of the event.

Sport is a powerful nation-building tool that brings people of different cultures together for a common goal. “I call upon people with knowledge and love of tennis to come forward and help develop tennis among fellow soldiers in our organisation,” said Col Nonco.

Col Nonco believes that the most selfish people in life are those who go to their graves with knowledge, skills and expertise without sharing them with their fellow men.

“I want to make an appeal to parents, teachers and unit commanders to encourage their children and subordinates to get involved in sport at every level to ensure a healthy lifestyle; remember that ‘A child in sport is a child out of court’.”

During the SANDF Tennis Championships held in Oudtshoorn in 2004, Col Nonco became the first black person to reach the men’s doubles finals, for which he won a gold medal. He has previously also won gold medals in tennis, i.e. at the club championships of the Pretoria Military Club, for three years consecutively and has represented Gauteng North in the 55+ category for veterans for more than three years running.

“I want to reiterate the fact that one does not stop exercising because one grows old, but one grows old because one stops exercising,” said Col Nonco. "May I take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude to Solly Ngwenze for his assistance during hard times in tennis coaching, as well as my sponsors SAFI SPAR and Real People Sports."
Know the Matrimonial Property Law

By WO1 Susan Lee,
SAAF Research & Development

In the first of a series of helpful hints on law, I have decided to address the issue of “Advice on the Marriage Systems” available in South Africa. It is of the utmost importance that individuals be informed of the variations and the pros and cons associated with matrimonial property law.

In principle marriage must be concluded between a man and a woman, and it must be solemnised by a person who has been legally appointed or authorised to act as a marriage officer.

In the case of minors under the age of 18 years the consent of the Minister of Home Affairs is required, and over the age of 18 years but under the age of 21 the consent of only the parents is required. Should the Minister or parents refuse consent, the High Court must be approached.

Governing the recognition of customary marriages is the Recognition of Customary Marriages Act 120 of 1998, which came into operation on 15 November 1998. To be recognised as a customary marriage, the prospective parties must be over 18 years old, and have entered into and celebrated marriage in accordance with customary law.

Since the commencement of the Matrimonial Property Act 88 of 1984 on 1 November 1984, there have been three forms of matrimonial property systems available, namely:

“In Community of Property” - This remains the most popular form of matrimonial dispensation. Two estates are joined and each party has the right of disposal of the assets of the joint estate. Consent is required from the other party to alienate or encumber estate assets. Written consent is only required in certain cases. Certain assets may be excluded from the joint estate, for example testamentary, but this category is limited.

“Out of Community of Property. Accrual expressly excluded” - This is the form of marriage where, by means of a notarial antenuptial contract, community of property and profit and loss are excluded. The accrual system must be expressly excluded, otherwise it applies. In this case there is, however, juristic equality in that each party has full right of disposal of his or her own assets, but there is no financial equality in respect of any contribution the spouses have made in regard to necessities for the joint household in the absence of an agreement.

“Out of Community of Property with Accrual” - With due consideration that a successful marriage is based on equality and is managed as a partnership, this model must surely be the most appropriate and ideal system. That which the parties owned prior to the marriage can be included in the accrual. Assets that are inherited, or damages for personal injury, as well as donations are excluded from accrual, unless the spouses agree otherwise in their antenuptial contract or in so far as the testator or donor may stipulate otherwise. That which the spouses jointly acquired is considered to be part of the accrual. Upon the dissolution of the marriage, whether it be by death or divorce, the net estate values are determined separately, and the larger estate must then transfer half of the difference to the smaller estate. The advice of a legal representative must be sought for the execution of an antenuptial contract.

* The English translation of this article is available alongside. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any one of our official languages, please make use of the professional services rendered by Directorate Language Services of the DOD. For assistance contact Col Dean Vorster, Director Language Services, at tel no: (012) 392 3176 - Ed.

Kolskoot

Tydens die Nasionale Combat Rifle Kampioenskappe wat gehou is op die Goie Hoop-skietbaan in Kaapstad oor die tydperk 27 tot 29 Mei 2005, het die viermanspan van Regiment President Steyn die eenheidspankampioenskap voor sestig ander spanne se neuse weggeskiet. Die span was ook tweede in die Close Quarter Combat en die Counter-terrorist kompetisies. Lt Piet Bekker het die individuele kompetisie gewen en sy Nasionale Kleure verdien. Hy het ook in Maart vanjaar die individuele oopvissier-kompetisie vir die Reserwe Mag gewen. (Artikel deur kapt Peet Hugo, lid van Regiment President Steyn)

Bull’s-eye

During the National Combat Rifle Championships held at the Good Hope Shooting Range in Cape Town over the period 27 to 29 May 2005 the four-man team of the Regiment President Steyn snatched the unit team championship trophy ahead of sixty other teams, and was second in the Close Quarter Combat and Counter-terrorist Competitions. Lt Piet Bekker won the individual competition and was awarded his National Colours. In March this year he also won the individual open sight competition for the Reserve Force. (Article by Capt Peet Hugo, member of Regiment President Steyn)
African Defence Systems Advert
(Repeat June 05 advert)
page 9 - now page 47
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