Changing of Guard at SADC Organ: Defence Ministers of SA and Namibia
Letters: feedback from our readers

Enhance peace support in Africa

No Violence Against Women and Children

Make this second decade of democracy one of triumph

New facilities for the Hawk and Gripen

3 out of 4 troops fit for deployment

Vuk’uzenzele - Let’s make it happen

Promoting defence and security in the SADC region

Military Legal Services Division turns six

Celebrating Our Living Heritage

Harnessing the Power of the Sea for Africa

A female general who is a role model for women

Phasing out of commandos

SA Air Force - An African Perspective

Our Air Force flying high in Zimbabwe

First National Military Social work Conference

Second Navy female member commands a vessel

Businessmen got a taste of our military

Plant a tree, grow our future

Studies at State Expense

Simulated live fire training

Fire-fighting as a career for women

What do I do when a baby of mine is born?
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FRONT COVER: Our Minister of Defence, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota (left), and his Namibian counterpart, Maj Gen (Ret) Charles Namoloh, at the 5th Session of the Republic of South Africa and Namibia Joint Commission on Defence. Please read more about this session on pages 16 and 17. (Photo: F Sgt David Nomthsongwana)

For the latest news on defence matters in South Africa, visit our website at: www.sasoldier.mil.za
ne of Government’s foremost goals during the Second Decade of Freedom is to make South Africa habitable for all people, including vulnerable groups such as women and children.

South Africa’s 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children campaign is held annually from 25 November (International Day of No Violence Against Women) to 10 December (International Human Rights Day). It has been growing from strength to strength over the past nine years.

The Deputy Minister of Correctional Services, Ms Cheryl Gillwald, believes that we all have a role to play. Peace begins at home and we must show our commitment to ending violence in the way that we raise our sons and daughters. We must be open and frank with them about their sexuality and their relationships with their peers.

Here are some of the activities on the DOD programme of 16 Days of Activism for 2005:

- The African Women’s Peace Table Conference will be held at Waterkloof Officers’ Mess in Pretoria on 25 November 2005. The aim of the conference is to support the AU/NPAD peace initiative by discussing gender based violence in relation to the conflict situation in Africa.
- On 1 December 2005 members of the DOD will participate in the activities to commemorate International World AIDS Day.
- On 2 December 2005 members of the DOD will participate in the International Day for People with Disabilities.
- On 5 December 2005 the DOD will commemorate the White Ribbon Campaign. Authority will be requested for uniformed members of the DOD to wear civilian clothing on this day so that they can also wear white ribbons on this occasion.
- On 7 December 2005 our Gender Forum will visit the AIDS Orphanage in Mamelodi to contribute donations as a gesture of support to the organisation that manages the project.
- On 10 December 2005 members of the Gender Forum will attend the Day of Accountability organised by the Office on the Status of Women. The aim of this event is to enable senior members of Government to reaffirm their commitment to the eradication of gender-based violence.

Members of the DOD are encouraged to support the White Ribbon Campaign. If you are being abused in any way or if you know of anyone who needs help - call:

**CRIME STOP:** 08600 10111
**LIFELINE:** 0861 322322
**CHILDLINE:** 08000 55555
**AIDS HELPLINE:** 08000 12322

Please read more about this controversial topic on page 11. Let us unite against gender and child abuse.

On a lighter note: Look out for next month’s SA SOLDIER which will be launching its first Spot the Ball competition. This will be our pilot competition in preparation for an awareness campaign for the FIFA 2010 World Cup Soccer Tournament. Lots of premium prizes to be won in this exciting new competition.

Nelda Pienaar
Editor
SA SOLDIER ● NOVEMBER 2005
African Defence Systems
Advert
(Repeat Oct 05 advert)
page 23 - now page 5
Why not give them flowers now?

I dedicate this letter to members infected with HIV/AIDS, those who are suffering from the life threatening disease, the terminally ill, AIDS orphans and those thinking of committing suicide.

Take away my importance and you crush me;’ Samuel Johnson. No human being can be genuinely happy unless he or she stands well in the esteem of fellow mortals. Why not give them flowers now, while they can be appreciated? Why wait until their hearts have stopped, their eyes are unseeing, and there are not listening.

I have a message for them all: The Lord is your shade at your right hand, He will keep you from all harm, He will watch over your lives and He is destined for your glory before time began. There is no grief, which time doesn’t soften. Don’t feel shame, low self-esteem and embarrassment. You have a life ahead of you, your life is more important than the disease and problems you are facing.

Don’t give up the essence of who you are. In the darkness of your hearts God is your light. He is the strength of your life. He will restore your souls and make you normal again. He will hold you and give you courage and faith. What God can be is quite beyond our powers. So if people fail you and give up on you, know that God cares, He will never fail you. You may be tired and weary. You may stumble and fall. Have faith and put your hopes in the Lord, you will be renewed. ‘The treaty you have made with death will be abolished, and your agreement with the world of the dead will be cancelled. When disaster sweeps down, you will be overcome’ - Isaiah 28:18.

Always know that there are those who love and understand and will always be there when you feel most alone. Your presence is a present to the world. God has a reason for you to be here. I am hopeful and pray that when all human endeavour has failed, God will step in and lift you up. I wish you good health and God’s blessings. Lord, use us in service to others in need, that we may share your love with them. Amen - A.M. Rakoma, Moetladimo, Tzaneen.

From Burundi to Darfur


These missions did not achieve their stated objectives for various reasons, e.g. lack of political acceptance and resources. They exclude regional initiatives which, by and large, were successful, e.g. (ECOWAS) Economic Community of West African States intervention in Liberia (1991), Siena Leone, (1995 - 2000), Guinea Bissau (1998 - 1999), Côte d’Ivoire (2002- ) and the intervention in Lesotho (1998) by the Southern African Development Community (SADC). The formation of the African Union (AU) in 2002 added impetus to the Reconstruction and Development of Africa. The principle of the AU that developments and security are inseparable has strengthened the resolve of our leader to find ‘African Solutions to African Problems’. This implies taking the lead in resolving what appears to be an intractable political, economic and social issue.

The first AU peace mission in Africa was in Burundi with the deployment of the African Mission in Burundi (AMIB) in 2003. That mission culminated in the present-day United Nations Mission in Burundi (UNMIB) in 2004. The second mission is the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS) in 2004. This mission is modelled on the AMIB in its structure, doctrine, etc. Maybe it is too early to start making comparisons between AMIB and AMIS. However, during the author’s visit to the Sudan the following observations were made with respect to AMIS.

Qualitative Development at the Military Strategic Level. The AU, through its Peace and Security Commission and together with other neighbouring countries, is steering the peace negotiations in Darfur. Unlike AMIB, which did not have a specific dedicated nodal point, AMIS has a dedicated team called the Darfur Integrated Task Force (DITF), led by Ambassador Ki Doulaye Corentim, who is based in Addis Ababa. This Task Force concentrates all its efforts on AMIS. It has dedicated offices and visibly marked vehicles. The Head of Mission, who is based in Khartoum, is Ambassador Baba Gana Kingibe. The Force Commander of AMIS, Maj Gen F.O. Okonko, who is based in El Fasher, is working alongside the Deputy Head of Mission. The line-up of dedication political representatives has improved communication between the military strategic level and the operational/tactical level.

AMIS seems to be well endowed with resources as compared to AMIB.

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.
Our appreciation to our spouses/ guardians alone back home

May you take your time out alone back home on our local and international deployment occasion, to acknowledge the contribution you have made to our family, society and military alike, and may you relish the fact that now God has made you a spouse or a guardian.

After our long peacekeeping military deployment, we were left thinking how important our spouse and guardians were, for the smooth running and maintenance of the family in our absence.

We need to be endlessly and highly appreciative of the fact that now home alone is stressful and boring, because the many diverse roles you play every 24 hours back home are no less than astonishing. We were actually left wondering just how appreciative you are, doing your home chores tirelessly, your children and partners realising what you do to maintain the status quo and keep the family warm seven days a week for plus or minus six months.

You people deserve much more love and praise and more than anything else to celebrate your alone-back-home power.

Your ability to work, balance, manage, support and care in order to keep our home and job running smoothly is actually extraordinary.

So be proud as a single parent, singled out by your loved ones, gone for military peacekeeping to gain our country’s reputation and support, to promote and sustain peace, and to earn us a better lifestyle for our families.

A better lifestyle is ensured by our achievement, and no matter how hard or difficult it is God is on our side.

Somebody somewhere will realise what our agreement and mutual efforts cost us in overcoming all our obstacles.

Equipping ourselves with the spiritual armour of God, mutual understanding, working together and perseverance from both sides do come at a price - all for the best.

God bless you all back home - till we meet again in the near future at the end of our deployments in Burundi, the DRC, the Sudan, etc - Sgt (Pastor) T.D. Makiti, Burundi.

For instance the USA, through the Pacific Architecture Engineering (PAE), a US private concern, is giving logistics support to the mission. This includes stores, fuel, accommodation, air transport, etc. The European Union (EU), the United Nations (UN) and other Non-governmental Organisations (NGOs).

Non-governmental Organisations, International Government Organisations (IGOs), etc have a strong presence too. There is clear Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), Status of Mission Agreement (SOMA), financial procedures, etc.

At Operational/Tactical Level. The Force Commander of AMIS, Maj Gen F.O. Okonkwo, is in charge of a well-oiled machine with, inter alia, clear standard operating procedures (SOPs), Rules of Engagement (ROE), sufficient transport and equipment and good HQ accommodation and guaranteed rations. The deployment of civilian police (CIVPOL) is an added bonus.

The hand of friendship extended by international organisations towards AMIS is commendable. For instance, in August 2005 the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) conducted a command post exercise (CPX) with the help of General Opande, one of the leading theoreticians and practitioners of peace missions in Africa.

Conclusion. Besides the international goodwill clearly visible in Darfur, AMIS still faces some challenges in terms of resources. Indeed, it is developing in circumstances which are different from AMIB. Thus its progression is going to assume its own ebb and flow until it achieves its own stated goals.

However, the common thread that runs through these two missions is the resolve and commitment of the AU to enter the fray when it is still hot and the conditions still uncertain, thus determining Africa’s destiny.
It is a great pleasure to write this letter to you and to take this opportunity to thank the SANDF for its great presentation during the educational tour to the military installations in Cape Town on 29 and 30 September 2005. I have learned about our Defence Force and I have pleasure to say the following: It was my belief due to misinformation by our media and other organisations who claimed to know our Defence Force better that our Defence Force was not up to standard, that we were not protected and people were deployed to different positions without knowing their duties or doing those duties. People will mislead you that you not to trust this Department and further that the Department is misusing taxpayers’ money. I have great pleasure in congratulating General Mangope and other generals in other services and divisions and also to thank Minister Lekota and the Chief of the SANDF, Gen G.N. Ngwenya, for the arranged visit of 29 to 30 September 2005, which has opened my eyes. I saw the reality of our Defence Force and its greatness. The presentations and equipment demonstrated to us makes me confident in our Defence Force and means I can walk with pride in my own country as I could see that one is defended by professional people and officers who mean business and are dedicated to their different fields. One could see this in the way General Mangope conducted his business and his behaviour towards us. I will proudly inform my family, friends, colleagues and fellow South Africans that they must not be misinformed about the Defence Force, and that they are protected and there is no country that can disturb their freedom in their country.

With these words I would like to praise our SANDF and tell it to keep up the good work that it is doing in serving us - Mr Victor Mashele (V.M. Mashele Attorneys, Johannesburg).

Members of 7 SAI Bn are currently deployed in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). If it were not for the Officer Commanding, Lt Col Mabotja, we would not be recognised in the SA Army and South Africa at large as being part of the continuous history in the making of struggle of our country, South Africa, helping to bring peace to countries such as the DRC, Burundi and the Sudan. For us as South Africans it is of significance to be part of the contingent deployed in the DRC under the UN Mission. I want to thank Maj S. Maoto and WO1 P. Ramoroka for being the most reliable commanders we have in this mission. They were the most outstanding leaders from the day of preparation until we arrived in the DRC. Whenever the place seems strange to us, courage and hope is our motto. We take each day with morale and trust in the professionalism of our officers and various leader groups. I will not be fair if I don’t mention my Company Second in Command, Capt Mothiba, Company Sergeant Major, WO2 T.T.F. Dlangisa, and my Group Commander, Sgt S.M. Malašić. Capt Mothiba is one of the most professional and creative leaders I have ever met. His virtues reflect professionalism. We admire his leadership and reliability. The time in the DRC will not be as long as it seems to be. For the period ahead we, 7 SAI Bn, pledge to serve the good image of our unit, and as a unit we want to do that for our Army, the SANDF and most of all our country, South Africa - Pte T.F. Adams, Anti-tank Platoon, 7 SA Infantry Battalion.

By putting his or her thoughts on paper (SA SOLDIER, April 2005) Capt K.J. Harmse, 68 Air School, paints a painfully vivid picture of himself. He set out to admonish Col T.M. Khumalo for the tribute paid to the late Colonel T.L. Mlangeni. Actually what the writer is upset about is the Colonel’s use of grammar. It is clear that some words were too peppery for his taste. He goes on to suggest how the Colonel should have written certain paragraphs. It is disappointing and one is therefore left wondering whether he shares the tribute or not. It is obvious to me at least that the writer is one of many, who because of their poor understanding of history and their scant regard of the present order are dead scared of the future. Personally I did not read anything unbecoming in Colonel Khumalo’s article, because if there were any, it would not have passed through the Editor’s desk. There was nothing graphically vulgar or even begrudging in describing the 80s as a time of brutal slaughter and states of emergency. It really happened. Ask those who were affected by it. They will not open wounds by doing so; they will simply tell stories from which you and others may learn a thing or two. To reinforce my statement, let me refer you to the winning letter by F Sgt Botya Mxolisi of AFB Waterkloof (SA SOLDIER, April 2005) where he writes: ‘The darkest moments of our lives are not to be buried and forgotten. Rather they are a memory to be called upon for inspiration to remind us of the unre lenting human spirit and our capacity to overcome the intolerable’. I therefore challenge you to be the one that does introspection. Face up to the bare facts and try to influence planning at your level with a view to a ‘proper’ understanding of the Minister’s vision. I suggest you go and reread the Minister’s New Year’s message. Find in it both what appeals to you and that which doesn’t. Learn to analyse others’ comments both critically and comprehensively. Remember that intolerance and other vices can only be overcome by unity. Singleness of purpose can only propel us to greater heights. I am not by any means asking you or anyone to think as I do, but it helps to consider any issue at hand from all angles and on its merits. And, by the way, this is all in the spirit of ‘true’ reconciliation, no hard feelings! - Ronnie Msomi, Middelburg.

Leaders with vision

In the spirit of reconciliation

SA SOLDIER • NOVEMBER 2005
Consequences for non-uniformed members

Eleven years of democracy is an enormous achievement, but with a downside for non-uniformed members’ jobs in the SANDF. On 27 April 2005 we woke up to a resounding success in the effort to make the democratic era a boon to all who live in the Republic of South Africa. This pen oozes tears, for we as people in defence of democracy have failed to take stock of our own, to look into the degradation of our environment from a personnel management perspective. We have allowed the short-lived interest of greed to eat away the livelihood of our core support system, namely the non-uniformed members’ jobs in the military environment. When this animal called Democracy was about to set in, pessimists within and without the military organisation contrived to retrieve what was “inherently theirs” from the sinking ship (Defence Force). They planned to get that through a system called “outsourcing”. This system was to be used to get funds from the unwary Government. The zealous civil servants were motivated by the prospect of profiting from their nefarious plans. What can be outsourced from a military organisation? Military core business soldiering cannot be outsourced (initially). Then the bulk of the support service resources can and this was definitely outsourced. The bulk of the support services outsourced were in effect the non-uniformed members’ jobs, some of which are as follows: hospitality services (messes), laundry, catering, cleaning, general base and unit maintenance, landscape and environmental upkeep (lawn mowing, tree trimming and litter removal), office or facility cleaning, erection of fences, painting, plumbing, carpentry and general masonry. The onslaught thereafter descended on military quasi-civil jobs (technical services) performed at LWT, such as vehicle maintenance and repairs, boiler making and welding. These services were outsourced under the pretext of cutting costs. If this was a bona fide action, why were these services, allocated through fronts, manned by members who had resigned from the SANDF after denouncing the democratic process? The onslaught on non-uniformed members has continued unabated through ignorance on the part of new commanders and the dominance of the “Old Guard” as they call themselves. The power of the “Old Guard” is always felt when at Level 4 people wish to air their views to the commander at Level 3. You get comments such as “I know Level 2 will not allow that” and a General Staff Officer is mentioned as the overriding power above the commander at Level 2.

The non-uniformed members must have their jobs protected by us (members in uniform) for we know the benefits of their contribution. The commanders at tactical level must grasp that the military organisation plays a vital role in the socio-economic system of the Republic. I therefore recommend that commanders include the role of non-uniformed members when planning their service support for the envisaged projects/missions. I firmly believe that the perception of having a combat element without control of its logistics is flawed to the bone, and thus the GSB/ASB system was contrived on the very corrupt notion of “outsourcing”, and it must be abolished - Maj Geobani Ingram Mazibuko, Second in Command Advanced Training Wing, Infantry School.
Enhance peace support in Africa

By CPO Dennis Ndaba
Photo: F Sgt David Nomthshongwana

During the strategic discussions held between President Thabo Mbeki and President George Bush at the White House on 1 July 2005, the Presidents agreed that South Africa would participate in the African Contingency Operations Training Assistance (ACOTA) Programme. To this end, a Declaration of Understanding was signed between the Minister of Defence of South Africa, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, and US Ambassador, Dr Jendayi Frazier, at Defence Headquarters in Pretoria on 11 August 2005.

The ACOTA Programme of the US government is its Security Assistance Programme managed by the US Department of State to enhance the peace support and humanitarian capability of selected African countries, including South Africa. The ACOTA Programme emphasises common doctrine and equipment for peace support operations.

The ACOTA Programme is based on an international United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO) approved Programme of Instruction that features modular segments. These segments, grouped into Military Operational Skills, Humanitarian Assistance Skills and Command and Staff Operational Skills, are adjusted to match each partner’s interest and capabilities. Training includes ‘train the trainer’ activities to enhance training capacity in peace support operations skills within the partner countries armed forces.

Establishment of the Congolese National Defence Force

The Congolese National Defence Force achieved another milestone on 28 September 2005, when the 6th Brigade of the integrated National Defence Force had their passing-out parade at Luberizi in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). The integration of this brigade is in terms of a bilateral agreement between South Africa and the DRC.

The Minister of Defence of South Africa, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, and his DRC counterpart, Dr Adolphe Onusumba, and the Deputy Minister of Defence of Namibia, Victor Simunja, attended the occasion. Minister Lekota also held discussions with DRC political leaders to gain first-hand information about the progress of the peace process in that country.

The passing-out parade of the 6th Brigade of the integrated Congolese National Defence Force bears testimony to the resolve and determination of the Congolese people to achieve long lasting peace and stability in their country.

* The Sepedi version of this article is available on page 44. To obtain a translation of this article or any article published in SA SOLDIER in any 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.
16 days of Activism

By Manelisi Wolela, Deputy Commissioner: Communication Department of Correctional Services

One of Government’s foremost goals during the Second Decade of Freedom is to make South Africa habitable for all people, including vulnerable groups such as women and children.

In his State of the Nation Address in February this year, President Thabo Mbeki announced clear targets for reducing contact crimes, such as gender-based domestic violence, which includes sexual, physical and emotional abuse.

South Africa’s 16 Days of Activism for No Violence Against Women and Children campaign is held annually from 25 November (International Day of No Violence Against Women) to 10 December (International Human Rights Day). It has been growing from strength to strength over the past nine years.

Endorsed by the United Nations, the campaign focuses on building public awareness about the negative impact of violence against women and children.

All sectors of society, including the private sector, labour and civil society organisations, have partnered Government to spread the message that ‘enough is enough’. Media coverage last year improved in both quantity and quality of stories about violence against women and children, shifting from treating them as faceless statistics to human stories of victims and survivors.

The Department of Correctional Services, as the campaign’s lead department, works with the Office on the Status of Women, the Office on the Status of Disabled Persons and the Office on Rights of the Child in the Presidency, as well as other government departments.

The national convenor of the campaign in 2005, the Deputy Minister of Correctional Services, Ms Cheryl Gillwald, has stressed the importance of civil-society participation, because Government cannot tackle this problem on its own. She says in most cases the victim knows the perpetrator and the abuse often occurs at home. Victims and survivors are often too frightened to seek assistance and these acts therefore often go unreported and unpunished.

The shame and stigma associated with this violence also prevent some victims from speaking out, thus depriving themselves of the remedial support they require healing and recovering from the ordeal.

The challenge is to engage a wider range of constituencies in the annual campaign, with purpose-built messages and activities that resonate strongly with each particular sector.

The core message emphasises that gender-based and child-directed violence, even the threat of it, is intolerable, as it severely constrains the capacity of individuals and communities to develop and achieve their full human potential.

Although the campaign is reaching unprecedented levels, it still needs to be translated into a year-round effort and be manifested in behavioural change. The increasing number of offenders sentenced for sexual crimes is both a manifestation of a call to all victims and survivors to ‘speak out’ and a reflection that much more should be done to re-socialise our children appropriately on gender relations.

Communicators are urged to feature the campaign logo extensively in their internal publications, external correspondence and advertisements, including their websites. Corporate donations will be sought to augment the fund-raising initiative on behalf of non-governmental organisations working with victims and survivors of domestic violence.

Employers and employees are encouraged to support the white ribbon campaign and to obtain their white ribbons and pins from women’s empowerment groups. A database of preferred service providers has been compiled and will be made accessible to all potential clients.

Our hope is that the heightened awareness will ultimately result in behavioural and attitudinal change that will lead to decreased levels of interpersonal violence.

This will help make human dignity and social justice a lived experience for all South Africans.
General Godfrey Ngwenya is the second black senior officer to lead the SANDF after Gen Siphiwe Nyanda (Ret). His appointment marks the era of the intensification of efforts to steer the SANDF into the second decade of democracy.

"I was born fifty-five years ago," revealed Gen Ngwenya. "I completed my matric in 1970 and joined the West Rand Administration Board (WRAB), working as a senior clerk at Baragwanath Hospital." He is married to Busisiwe Portia Ngwenya and they are blessed with two sons and one daughter.

During the student uprising of 1976 he was touched by the brutality inflicted by the regime on students. This led him to join the African National Congress (ANC) and its armed wing, Umkhonto we Sizwe (MK).

He underwent military training in exile and further specialisation in the then German Democratic Republic (GDR) and the Soviet Union (USSR), and then held various command posts, including that of Regional Commander in Angola and a member of MK high Command. Upon his return from exile, he became MK Chief of Personnel and Training.

Prior to 1994, when it was evident that there would be an integration of all the armed forces in South Africa, he was responsible for compiling the Central Personnel Register (CPR).

Gen Ngwenya was one of the high ranking officers appointed by the former Minister of Defence, the late Mr Joe Modise. The seven included Lt Gen Nyanda (Ret) and Lt Gen Moloi (Ret), the only two lieutenant generals.

After integration, he was appointed as the Deputy General Officer Commanding (GOC) of the then Witwatersrand Command in Johannesburg. Upon completion of the Senior Staff Course he was appointed as the GOC of North West Command and stayed in the post for a period of two years. He then did the Joint Staff Course and upon completion was appointed in the SA Army as Chief Director Force Preparation.

He spent less than a year in this post before being appointed as Deputy Chief Joint Operations (CJ Ops) under the late Lt Gen Ferreira in 1999. He subsequently took over as CJ Ops in 2000, the post he occupied until his appointment as Chief of the SANDF.

During his tenure as CJ Ops in 2001 major deployments formed part of the SANDF’s diplomatic initiative to help eradicate conflicts in the region and continent. This was the time when the late President of Tanzania, Julius Nyerere, was a peace mediator in Burundi and, when he passed away, the former President, Mr Nelson Mandela, was requested to lead the process, which culminated in the signing of the Arusha Accord.

Despite all the difficulties, it is history today that elections have been held successfully and we have a peaceful democratic Burundi led by President Pierre Nkurunziza. The SANDF has proved in the case of Burundi that a peace mission is possible even before a peace agreement has been signed between the warring factions.

"Civil oversight is nothing new to me. It is a necessity and it will remain a necessity. We must be accountable to the people of South Africa. We can only be accountable if there is civil oversight over the SANDF," emphasised Gen Ngwenya.

"I think we are a focal point, but if you look at where we have come from since 1994, surely we have done a great deal of work. We still have major problems and there are hurdles ahead of us. There are problems in terms of representivity, especially in the middle
management leadership. We need to address those issues.

"At the same time, I want to deal with the perception still existing amongst our white colleagues who think that they are not needed in the SANDF. This is because when we pursue representivity we need to look at blacks, especially Africans, as they were previously disadvantaged. We must address this because the SANDF belongs to all the people of South Africa," said the General.

"We need people with conscious discipline. I must instruct all the members of the SANDF to maintain the highest standard of discipline."

Gen Ngwenya said that all the members who are deployed outside the country are not representing themselves. "They represent the President who is our Commander-in-Chief. We are worried about the cases of ill-discipline and we cannot hide that. We want to say to them that they should be mature as they belong to a matured defence force comprising matured individuals who do not always need a commander’s presence," warned the Chief of the SANDF.

Certainly, with all members of the SANDF working together, we can make a meaningful contribution and make this second decade of democracy and freedom one of triumph.

New facilities for the Hawk and Gripen

By F Sgt H. Denkewitz, 85 Combat Flying School

The arrival of the Hawk Mk120 LIFT at Makhado Air Force Base scheduled for August 2005 not only introduces a new aircraft into the SA Air Force inventory, but also some of the most modern avionics. Sophisticated systems require an understanding of complex systems and sophisticated training. In an effort to create the perfect learning environment, SAAF Director Base Support Systems, through Project Winchester, has recently handed over the most sophisticated classrooms and teaching aids to the SA Air Force.

As the "Fighter Centre of Excellence" of the SA Air Force, it is appropriate that Makhado Air Force Base provides the teaching and learning environment to match the intricacies of the aircraft systems. In keeping with the latest pedagogic principles, the Centralised Training Centre (CTC) was established to provide a comprehensive computer based instruction system (CBIS) and a Virtual Aircraft Training System (VATS) for the ground and aircrews of 85 Combat Flying School. While the CBIS provides basic and advanced knowledge of aircraft systems for aircrew using instructor lead and self-paced learning strategies, an Integrated Training Management System (ITMS) manages student activities and provides access to student records.

Amazingly, the VATS provides students with the capability to practise the operation, maintenance and diagnosis of faults in complex aircraft systems. The training device responds in exactly the same manner as the real aircraft in normal and fault modes, allowing for the free-flow execution of maintenance procedures and fault diagnostic training.

VATS is designed to reinforce and consolidate the knowledge gained through the CBIS courses by facilitating the "practical" experience of interacting with the aircraft and its systems in a benign, glass screen environment. The VATS courseware is accessed through the same high-resolution twin-screen units of the CBIS classrooms, the student interacting via mouse and stick and throttle units.

Sound military relations are vital

By CPO Dennis Ndaba

An accreditation ceremony was held on 6 September 2005 at the South African Army College in Thaba Tshwane to welcome newly appointed military attaches, defence advisers and their families. The growing importance of defence diplomacy and defence foreign relations cannot be denied. Sound military relations between allied countries are vitally important, especially in the quest for global peace and security. Speaking at the event, the Chief of Defence Foreign Relations, Maj Gen Mohato Mofokeng, said that Africa was known as a continent plagued by strife. Economic development is severely limited by conflict, insecurity, lack of democracy and viable opportunities for investment. South Africa recognises the need for greater solidarity between nations, especially in Africa, and is therefore seeking a high level of political, economic and military cooperation with African states in particular, but also with the rest of the world. "The South African Government’s approach to foreign affairs has created an increasing demand on our Department of Defence to play an expanding role in defence diplomacy. Our National Defence Force has become instrumental in supporting the Government's foreign initiatives and it remains committed to the promotion of regional and continental peace, stability and security to ensure sustainable development," he said.

Maj Gen Mofokeng added that all accredited attachés must realise that their inputs and contributions to military matters make it possible for the SANDF to operate successfully in a rapidly changing international military environment. It is vitally important that the newly accredited attaché contribute to the continued strengthening of relations between our respective countries and defence forces, if we are to meet our foreign policy obligations and objectives. Their professional advice and guidance are vital in making the interaction with our defence forces uncomplicated and straightforward.
3 out of 4 troops fit for deployment

By Eleanor Momberg, Pretoria News

More than 40 000 (or 73%) of the SA National Defence Force’s 70 000 uniformed members are fit for deployment anywhere in the world, says the SA Military Health Service’s new Surgeon General, Lt Gen Vejaynand Ramlakan.

Lt Gen Ramlakan dispelled claims that the SANDF was struggling with an ageing and unfit force, but conceded there were what he called “pockets” of members who needed to brush up their fitness levels.

“There is no cause for alarm. We are far healthier than the rest of South African society. For our core business we have more than two divisions of people who could be deployed today. That is 40 000-plus in uniform. So this rumour of a sick, ageing Defence Force needs to be dispelled,” he said.

Lt Gen Ramlakan said that ten years ago the SANDF did not get a completely fit integrated force. It was now a decade later and those people who had integrated into the SANDF were also ten years older: this compelled the country’s Defence Chiefs to launch a drive to rejuvenate the Force.

Through the Military Skills Development Systems (MSDS) 6 000 young recruits between the ages of 18 and 24 years were currently being trained.

That figure, the Minister of Defence, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, said recently, was expected to grow to 10 000 in two years time. The MSDS intake had altered the age profile of the SANDF, increasing the number of young soldiers from 7,1% in December 2002 to 32,5% in July this year. Of these 30% were women.

Lt Gen Ramlakan said health problems were prevalent among older members of the SANDF, but these were problems similar to those experienced by the rest of the country’s population through unhealthy living. In terms of HIV/AIDS, the prevalence of the pandemic in the SANDF - projected to be 23% - represented a worst-case scenario. This figure, in any case, was far lower than the national average. Lt Gen Ramlakan said the 23% figure was based on an epidemiological study done in the SANDF in 2000. The results, he said, were then expected to be high because the sample group consisted of sexually active, single soldiers who moved around the country.

“They were open to all the HIV-positive risk factors. Based on national health and our on our projections we added 1,2% per year and that is how we got to 23% in the worst-case scenario.”

HIV/AIDS was, however, not the only problem as many of the soldiers not fit enough for deployment suffered from obesity, tuberculosis or other degenerative diseases, such as heart disease and cancer. Several were also disabled.

Lt Gen Ramlakan agreed that the fitness levels of soldiers could be improved, but disagreed they were completely unfit. “They are fit for the tasks they perform. You must remember that deployment levels require extraordinary fitness, combat situations require extraordinary fitness.”

“Those who are deployed are assessed for that level of fitness and if they don’t make it they are not deployed.”

In terms of the SANDF’s static activities - when the country was not at war and when soldiers were not deployed either inside or outside the country - a shortage of funds had resulted in the scaling down of involvement in sport and other physical activities.

“We have mapped out the exact level of fitness that is required at different levels and different age groups. People are now required on an annual basis to assess their fitness. We are hoping to move to a six-month basis in the short term,” he said.
On 29 September 2005 a new baby was born for the Government - Vuk’uzenzele - the new popular Government magazine. According to Mr Essop Pahad, Minister at the Presidency, it was three years ago that Mr Joel Netshitenzhe, CEO Government Communication and Information System (GCIS), thought of having such a magazine.

‘Vuk’uzenzele has to be an interactive magazine. The readers need to tell where is a lack of services and where they have difficulties when accessing information. The magazine will be used as a forum to raise these issues, challenges and concerns in order for the Government to respond adequately,’ said Mr Pahad. ‘This is the most difficult phase to get people not to be passive readers, but to participate. It won’t happen overnight, but will take time.’

‘It is a privilege to be the first Editor of Vuk’uzenzele,’ said Rafiq Rohan, ‘and to produce a magazine for an audience who was not previously catered for. Vuk’uzenzele will cover mainly bread and butter issues.’ Rafiq Rohan is the former Independent on Saturday editor. His editorial staff is made up of professionals recruited from the print media.

The core function of this 32-page publication is to meet the need for public information about socio-economic opportunities, especially for people in the lower income bracket with less access to existing media, as well as to enhance awareness of government programmes in general.

Vuk’uzenzele will be published six times a year in English and all other official languages, including Braille, and audio-editions will also be available. It has a print run of one million and is distributed free of charge to the public at taxi ranks, government offices, civic centres and will reach many of the deepest rural areas of the country.

To give more pizzazz to the launch, the well-known Noeleen Maholwana-Sangqu of 3Talk on SABC3 was the programme director of the day. Viwa Vuk’uzenzele!

A very positive development

‘With a bi-monthly circulation of one million readers countrywide this new Government publication is a very positive development, which will offer the Department of Defence (DOD) a valuable opportunity to communicate nationally on key issues, including Military Veterans Affairs, recruitment into the SANDF, Peace Support Operations, land restitution and support to the South African Police Services,’ says Mr Vuyo Zambodla, the Head of Communication in the Ministry of Defence.

The Government Communication Information System (GCIS) Project Manager for Vuk’uzenzele, Professor Govin Reddy, met with the Editors of the Department of Defence publications to explain the concept and exchange views on best practice with regard to Government magazines.

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Promoting defence in the SADC region

By CPO Dennis Ndaba
Photo: F Sgt David Nomthshongwana

The 5th Session of the Republic of South Africa and Namibia Joint Commission on Defence and Security was held in Cape Town over the period 14 to 16 September 2005. The meeting discussed, among other things, increased coordination and cooperation on defence matters, coordination of security in the land, sea and air, the movement of personnel and sharing of information.

The Commission marked five years of common goals that both countries aspire to, viz to be friendly neighbours and partners in the quest for optimum defence and security and the promotion of regional stability, growth and development. The promotion of defence and security within the SADC region has already resulted in the adoption of two vital instruments to ensure peaceful coexistence between SADC member states, namely the SADC Protocol and the Mutual Defence Pact.

When the Commission met in 2004, South Africa was Chair of the SADC Organ and SADC Inter-State Defence and Security Committee (ISDSC). Preparations were then under way for the imminent handover of the Chair to Namibia. The SADC Troika, for example, affords both countries the platform and opportunity for continuity of our joint efforts with regard to critical foreign policy and defence related issues, both multilateral and regional.

South Africa and Namibia have, for example, very specific political mandates for joint cooperation and continuity with respect to support for peace, stability and post-conflict reconstruction in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Burundi. Addressing the delegates the Minister of Defence, Mr Mosiuoa Lekota, said that the fact that South Africa was to host the 2010 FIFA Soccer World Cup should be viewed as a regional initiative with many positive spin-offs for the SADC region. It will become a focal point, which can serve as a catalyst for many of our long-term initiatives for the security and development of the SADC region. This includes improved regional security, increased investments and an unprecedented opportunity to market the region for tourism.

“Our analysis of the regional and global environment as it impacts on our work, makes it imperative that we see our work in the context of enhanced regional cooperation to combat the inter-related nature of many contemporary security and humanitarian threats, many of which are beyond the control of any single country, thus necessitating a collective response by like-minded states. Effective functioning of the Commission is central to peace and stability in our two countries. Every time we gather in this forum to debate and evaluate the defence and security agenda for our countries, and further afield, we are giving impetus to the domestic, regional and foreign policy of our political principles,” Mr Lekota added.

In his reciprocal address, the Minister of Defence of Namibia, Maj Gen (Ret) Charles Namoloh, said that the historic city of Cape Town reminded us of our common history. Namibian workers in the 1950s were inspired by their South African brothers to establish a political movement to free themselves from oppression. Later, some of them were imprisoned on the infamous Robben Island near
Cape Town with their South African brothers.

Despite this hardship of the past, Namibia and South Africa continue to enjoy excellent, warm and friendly relations. The various areas of cooperation enjoyed by our two countries bear testimony to this. For instance, members of the Namibian Defence Force continue to benefit from your institutions of learning of which Namibia is indebted. Namibia is convinced that further areas of cooperation can still be explored and extended for the mutual benefit of our peoples.

Maj Gen (Ret) Namoloh added: "Despite the improvement of the security situation in the region, our defence and security agencies must be ready to face new challenges. Instability in many parts of the world, and Africa in particular, has caused many people to flee from their own countries and become refugees in neighbouring countries. We cannot close our eyes while human suffering is continuing. Our efforts to build capacity for peace missions should be intensified. Namibia takes these challenges very seriously and for this reason we have nearly one thousand servicemen and women deployed in peace missions".

"Mr Chairman, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for the able manner in which you have chaired the Inter-State Defence and Security Committee during South Africa’s Chairmanship of the Organ. In my capacity as Minister of Defence, I will assume the Chairmanship of the Inter-State Defence and Security Committee (ISDSC). During this challenging task I would solicit support from your rich experiences as the outgoing chair. You have already indeed assured me of your support and I would like once more to express my appreciation for this generous gesture. Although the security situation in much of Africa is improving, I am still concerned with the suffering of the Somali people and that of the Darfur region of southern Sudan in the Great Lakes Region. The election held recently in Burundi is a welcome development. I would like to take this opportunity to commend the role played by South Africa, which has culminated in the holding of these elections in that country," he concluded.

Military Legal Services Division turns six

By CPO Dennis Ndaba
Photo: F Sgt David Nomshongwana

The Military Legal Services Division celebrated its 6th anniversary with the inauguration of two buildings at Legslato in Thaba Tshwane. The Head Office at the Legal Satellite Thaba Tswane was named the Mendi Memorial Building, to commemorate the death of the 616 men who died when the SS MENDI sank in 1917. The transport ship, SS MENDI, was carrying the last batch of the South African Native Labour contingent. During the passage from Plymouth (United Kingdom) to Le Havre (France), she collided with an allied vessel, the Darro, and sank within 25 minutes. The collision took place 12 miles from St Catherines Point off the Isle of Wright on Wednesday morning 21 February 1917, at 04:57. Owing to thick fog that morning, rescue operations were extremely difficult. Even the searchlights of the escort ship HMS Brisk were not effective. Many survivors and bodies were picked up by other vessels, which had responded to various SOS messages. As a result of the accident, 616 members of the labour contingent lost their lives. The men who died that morning have no other grave than the sea and were denied an honoured burial, such as that given to their comrades in death.

The Judges’ Chambers on the same terrain was named the Lt Cdr Jody Singh Memorial Building, to commemorate the death of Lt Cdr Jody Singh as a military judge. He always exuded confidence, had a pleasant personality, and was blessed with a deep sense of humility and respect for his colleagues. The warmth of his personality permeated his character and it was a pleasure to have known him and to have worked with him. He discharged his duties professionally and with the utmost efficiency. He thoroughly enjoyed being a military judge and was always ready to heed the call of duty.

He sadly passed away on 12 March 2002, a month before his 32nd birthday. It is a tribute to his unique personality and character that he impressed his peers and colleagues so much during his relatively short service as a military judge, that at a work session of the Directorate of military judges in October 2004, it was unanimously resolved to honour him posthumously. Officiating on this auspicious occasion, the Chief of the Military Legal Service Division, Maj Gen Bailey Mmono, mentioned three similarities between the crew of the SS MENDI and Lt Cdr Jody Singh. They were all soldiers, they paid the ultimate price to make peace and stability and their deaths were the results of accidents.
Celebrating Our Living Heritage

By Sgt Lebohang Letaoana
Photos: F Sgt David Nomtshongwana

Taung Sports Ground, North West Province, came to a standstill when President Thabo Mbeki and his entourage, including the Minister of Arts and Culture, Mr Pallo Jordan, and the Premier of the North West Province, Ms Edna Molewa, arrived to address the huge crowd that had assembled to celebrate Heritage Day on 24 September 2005.

“Our indigenous food, our knowledge, our heritage” was the sub-theme for this occasion. The significance of this sub-theme is self-evident because food is our primary source of sustenance.

“IT is indeed fitting that we celebrate this day at the Taung World Heritage Site, which was recently recognised by the 29th Session of the World Heritage Committee in Durban this year. The recognition and affirmation of Taung and Mokopane’s Valley in the Limpopo Province as world heritage sites bear further testimony to Africa and South Africa as the cradle of humankind,” President Mbeki said.

It was here in Taung that in 1924 Raymond Dart discovered the fossil bones of our human ancestors. This was to open the important global development of research and discovery about human evolution.

Back at the sports ground, the ceremony was officially opened with scripture reading by Brig Gen Marius Cornelissen, our Chaplain General. When members of the National Ceremonial Guard and the National Ceremonial Guard Band took to the field the crowd ululated and danced to the music of the band. The cherry on top was the fly-past and air display.

In his keynote address, President Mbeki said: “Our Government, under the auspices and leadership of the Minister of Arts and Culture, Mr Pallo Jordan, envisages a heritage policy and strategy that seeks to harness our heritage resources to improve the lives of our people. Indigenous foods and other indigenous knowledge systems can play a pertinent and crucial role in that heritage policy and strategy. All
November 2005 • SA Soldier

Infantry members removing the podium after the President’s speech. In the background, the Mmabana traditional dancers entertaining the crowd.

of us as South Africans, irrespective of origin, must and will contribute to this endeavour.”

The office of the Minister of Arts and Culture drafted these key messages about heritage month:

- The heritage month is a time for the country to celebrate our diversity and embrace our stable democracy that continues to enable coherence and diversified cultural practices.
- Supporting our ideal for a non-racial, non-sexist, multilingual society, we will encourage pride in the heritage of our myriad cultures, and continue to share our effort to build a country that truly belongs to all.
- The month will promote and enhance our pride and sustain our value systems, underpinned by respect for multicultural practices, without prejudice.

“Together we need to break down racial, tribal and gender boundaries and instead invoke the common traditions that bind us as a nation, as South Africans and as human beings. We once again affirm our common humanity at one of the sites where our species first emerged,” concluded the President.

The celebrations ended with an indigenous food fair, where President Mbeki and invited guests viewed and tasted food such as Lepu (pumpkin leaves) and Nyakafatane-Mabele (sugar beans, mealies and sorghum).
Harnessing the Power of the Sea for Africa

By Cdr Brian Stockton,
SO1 Navy PR

The SA Navy recently hosted the first ever Africa Sea Power Symposium in Cape Town from 29 to 31 August 2005. The theme of the symposium was ‘Harnessing the Power of the Sea for Africa’.

Some 47 delegates from 25 African countries attended, along with over 30 South African academics and military specialists.

According to the conference coordinator, R Adm (JG) Bryan Donkin “this symposium presented the first ever opportunity for the chiefs of African navies to come together to discuss matters of mutual importance. It also afforded them the opportunity to foster greater understanding in an effort to support the objectives of the New Economic Partnerships for African Development (NEPAD).”

He said that by hosting such a symposium the SA Navy would be supporting its own military strategy and the Government’s intentions, which were aimed at creating greater regional stability and security through enhanced mutual cooperation.

The symposium focused, inter alia, on matters relating to the unique maritime environment affecting the African continent. Guest speakers from Egypt, Nigeria, Kenya, Tanzania and South Africa delivered a variety of papers in their specialist fields covering topics relevant to the maritime community on the African continent. These were followed by discussions so that the delegates could gain the maximum value and benefit from the various subjects. The delegates were also afforded the opportunity to acquaint themselves with the SA Navy during a sea trip in the patrol corvette SAS ISANDLWANA from Cape Town’s V&A Waterfront to the Naval Dockyard Simon’s Town.

“To host and execute a symposium of this nature for the chiefs of African navies was both an honour and a privilege for the SA Navy,” said R Adm (JG) Donkin. “We had the opportunity to welcome the respective chiefs, followed by discussion and interaction that the symposium facilitated.”

The Africa Sea Power Symposium was a direct follow-on from the Inter State Defence and Security Committee’s Standing Maritime Conference held in Simon’s Town from 24 to 26 August.

The symposium was opened with the keynote address by the Minister of Intelligence, Mr Ronnie Kasrils. This was followed by scene setting and a welcoming by the Chief of the SA Navy, V Adm Refiloe Mudimu.

Papers delivered included: “Sea Power for African Navies” by Professor Renfrew Christie, the Dean of Research, University of the Western Cape, Cape Town, “Challenges of Charting Africa’s Maritime Zones” by Mr Ignatius Nhnyete - Head of...
After years of distant and somewhat acrimonious official relations, there are signs of an improvement in ties between Australia and South Africa.

While the politicians may not be particularly fond of each other, the two countries have proved that they are able to work on practical matters, such as chasing down a vessel caught fishing illegally in late 2003.

In recent years Pretoria has resented Canberra’s push to have Zimbabwe suspended from the Commonwealth and to extend its suspension in 2003. Australia is committed to assisting US President George Bush’s war against terror, and has 1,370 troops in Iraq, while South Africa has criticised the invasion.

Australia has provided about $105m in development assistance to SA since 1994. Under the Africa Framework, which commenced in March 2003, Australia’s aid programme has increased the emphasis on improved governance.

South Africa is Australia’s 20th largest trading partner. Over the past five years total trade between the two has grown by 10% annually. Last year two-way merchandise trade was valued at $2,839bn. Australian exports to South Africa include coal, petroleum, passenger cars and nickel, while South African exports to Australia include cars, furniture, pig iron and television sets.

There were also opportunities for interaction at various functions, including an opening function, a cocktail party hosted by ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems at the SA Maritime Museum, Victoria Waterfront and a function at the Job Masego Wardroom, Naval Base Simon’s Town, hosted by Flag Officer Fleet.

At the closing of the 2005 symposium the Chief of SA Navy formally summed up and closed the proceedings.

In summary, the Sea Power for Africa Symposium was regarded as a huge success and will be followed up at regular intervals, with the next symposium being scheduled for Nigeria.

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**Things on the mend with our mates down under**

By Jonathan Katzenellenbogen, International Affairs Editor, as published in Business Day

A fter years of distant and somewhat acrimonious official relations, there are signs of an improvement in ties between Australia and South Africa.

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The thaw in relations is illustrated by the visit of Australia’s high commissioner to South Africa, Phillip Green, said: “The visit symbolises the ever closer relationship that exists between our two countries of the southern hemisphere.”

To coincide with the visit, the Australian High Commission and the University of Cape Town held a seminar for diplomats, navy officers, customs officials and fisheries officers from both countries to discuss cooperation on the high seas. Australia could be South Africa’s natural partner in protecting both countries’ common interests in the southern Indian Ocean.

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**Operation LARIAT**

Operation LARIAT I took place over the period 10 to 14 April 2001. The South African and Australian (Continued on page 22)
(Continued from page 21)
defence forces combined to pursue a suspect fishing boat, the TOME, which was fishing illegally in Australian territorial waters. The Australian Navy pursued the TOME and requested South Africa to do the same when the boat entered South African waters. The SAS GALESHEWE, the SAS PRO-TEA and 35 Squadron (SA Air Force) participated in the operation. Members of the Australian Navy were on board our ships when the TOME entered South African waters. They went on board the fishing boat and arrested its crew.

Two years later Operation LARIAT II took place over the period 14 to 27 August 2003. This time round the operation was not as dramatic as the first one. The Australian Navy again requested the assistance of our navy to pursue a suspect fishing boat (“hot pursuit”) when it entered South African waters. When it was near our territorial waters it changed direction and that was the end of our operation.

South Africa helped Australia two years ago to end a 21-day chase across the southern seas to capture a Uruguayan-registered vessel spotted poaching Patagonian toothfish in Australian waters. The fish, also known as Chilean sea bass, is a deep water fish found in Antarctic waters. They are at risk of becoming extinct because of overfishing.

The South African tugboat, John Ross, manned by a crew from a private security firm, arrested the Viarsa crew, and the ship was towed back to Australia. While the operation worked in that the Viarsa was arrested, it seemed a haphazard affair - sending a tugboat with private security officers was not ideal.

The seminar in Cape Town at the end of July 2005 was an attempt to build on that experience, particularly as such co-operation will have to be repeated as both South Africa and Australia have the task of combating illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing in the waters around their sub-Antarctic island possessions in the Southern Ocean.

South Africa owns Prince Edward Island and Marion Island, while Heard Island and the McDonald Island are Australian territories. Marcel Kroeze, the director of monitoring and surveillance of the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism, says the arrest of the Viarsa sent a strong message to the owners of illegal fishing vessels. The problem of illegal fishing has decreased since then, but the need for vigilance over a vast ocean remains, Kroeze says.

Since 2003 South Africa has been in a more powerful position to hunt down boats fishing illegally. The SA Navy will soon have four operational corvettes and the Department of Environmental Affairs and Tourism has five new patrol boats.

But it is not only with regard to the capturing of poachers that Australia and South Africa may have to co-operate on the high seas in the future. There are other threats as well.

The University of Cape Town seminar also covered the role of maritime interception in combating transnational crime, terrorism, and the spread of weapons of mass destruction.

Helicopter Competition at Swartkop

By Sgt Lebohang Letaoana
Photo: F Sgt David Nomthshongwana

Learners around Johannesburg and Pretoria were treated to a world class air display. This happened during the 17 Squadron Open Day held at Swartkop on 25 August 2005, which was also the SA Air Force’s Helicopter Competition. The competition consisted of a Letra course of precision hovering, cargo sling and hoisting exercises.

Rooivalk, Oryx, Puma, Aloutte 11 and 111, BK 117 and Agusta 109 helicopters from various helicopter squadrons in the SA Air Force participated in this awesome event.

History of 17 Squadron: 17 Squadron was established on 1 September 1939 as part of the Airways Wing at Swartkop. The squadron underwent various changes and eventually found its way back to Swartkop Air Force Base. A Puma helicopter flight was added in 1992, but the new Oryx helicopters replaced the Pumas in 1994. With the closure of Swartkop Air Force Base in 1999 the Squadron was incorporated into Waterkloof Air Force Base. The Swartkop airfield is the oldest operational airfield of the Air Force.

17 Squadron was involved in various large-scale rescue operations, including the Oceanoas disaster in 1992 and the Mozambican floods in 2000 and 2002. The Squadron also took part in the inaugurations of President Nelson Mandela in 1994 and President Thabo Mbeki in 1999 and 2004.

Helicopter flight formation.
A female general who is a role model for women

By Lt Col Michelle van Damme-Rogers, SO1 Corp Comm MHTF

Walking into Brig Gen Lulu Siwisa’s office where she sits behind her desk, you immediately feel the powerful force for achieving success. Her friendly smile and warm personality make one feel that you can be open and frank.

Brig Gen Lulu Siwisa was appointed on 1 January 2005 as the first female General Officer Commanding of the Military Health Training Formation (MHTF). She was born in Soweto, Orlando East, on 12 February 1958. She is one of three children. Her mother who was a market researcher played an important role in her life and was the first black supervisor for the African Department at the African Research Institution. Her father is a tailor by profession. Her sister followed in his footsteps as a dressmaker and fine artist. Her brother is an artisan and accountant.

She attended school in Soweto and started her career in the Defence Force as a nursing student in Tanzania and completed a 4-year diploma. After this she went on to Dar-es-Salaam and various interesting places where she held posts in different hospitals and centres, such as the Bgamoyo Transit Centre and clinics. After her studies she was stationed in Harare, Zimbabwe. There she was appointed as a medical officer in APLA and in the government of Zimbabwe. She simultaneously held two positions in Zimbabwe.

She was integrated into the SANDF in 1994 and started at 1 Military Hospital as a captain. She worked there for two years, after which she was transferred to the Nursing College. She was one of the founding members of the Pharmaceutical Care Primary Health Course. She also taught the Primary Health Orderly Course and midwifery.

In 2000 she was also one of the first members of the newly established MHTF, as we know it today. She went on the Senior Staff Duties Course in 2003 and returned to the formation as the SSO Training Coordination in 2004.

When asked what her philosophy in life was she smiled and said she believed in herself and was prepared to meet any challenge. Working hard and being disciplined was very important to her.

People who played a key role in her life were her mother and her organisation. She said her mother taught her to be someone who was strong, and to be able to look after herself and to face life on her own. Her path in APLA, at a time when women weren’t making a mark, was marked by her being given the opportunity at a young age to be placed in leadership positions.

She was appointed as the Chairperson of the APLA Women’s Organisation at the age of 29 years, which was a great accomplishment in a very responsible post. She was responsible for organising all women in Zimbabwe, South Africa, Lesotho and Botswana to attend conferences and projects for women’s development.

The government of Zimbabwe also appointed her as the District Senior Nursing Officer of a district hospital and fourteen clinics. She said that all the posts and roles that she had to play contributed to her growing in her working environment. This made her stronger and fearless in meeting the challenges of life. Her toughest challenge was raising children without a father. She had assistance from her mother, but in the end the responsibility still lay at her door. She proudly said that she had raised a dignified young man and two beautiful daughters. She is the proud grandmother of a demanding grandson. Her experiences helped her to face her country and its problems.

Brig Gen Siwisa says she has no regrets leaving the country at the age of 17, although she missed out on some of her development stage. It made her stronger and did not regret her life in exile. She uses the experience in her daily life today.

She loves reading, is a keen cook and loves preparing seafood. She is a keen sports supporter and enjoys wrestling the most. Her love of bright colours is reflected in her love of decorating.

Her dreams are “being able to change people’s minds and being a role model for people to look up to in life”.

Her advice, especially to women is that everything for women’s development is out there. They should grab the opportunities and work hard and make a success of everything.
Phasing out of commandos

Since the announcement of the President on 14 February 2003 that the Commandos (SA Army Area Territorial Reserves) will be phased out, much progress has been made.

1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005
During the period 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005 two group headquarters, namely Group 36 in Bloemfontein and Group 46 in Mthata, as well as the following seventeen commando units are in the process of closing down:
- Ntambambini (Tygerberg) Commando (Western Cape)
- Piketberg Commando (Western Cape)
- Cradock Commando (Eastern Cape)
- Orange Commando (Upington, Northern Cape)
- Bloemfontein Stad Commando (Free State)
- Edenburg Commando (Free State)
- Umgeni Commando (Durban)
- Longtom Commando (Graskop, Mpumalanga)
- Nelspruit Commando (Mpumalanga)
- Gyi Kandi Commando (Limpopo)
- Northam Commando (Swartklip, Limpopo)
- Mankwe Commando (North West Province)
- Mafikeng Commando (North West Province)
- Atlas Commando (Kempton Park)
- Krugersdorp Commando (Gauteng)
- Meyerton Commando (Gauteng)
- Randburg Commando (Gauteng)

The commando units, which will close in 2006 to 2009, that were under the command of Group 36 and 46 Headquarters have been taken over by Group 24 in Kroonstad and Group 6 in Port Elizabeth. These Group Headquarters and seventeen commando units are now preparing the administrative processes for the final audit before they can finally close down.

1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006
The following Group Headquarters will close down during the period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006:
- Group 33 - Nelspruit
- Soutpansberg Military Area - Musina
- Group 30 - Potchefstroom
- Group 16 - Marivale
- Group 22 - Kimberley

The following commando units will close down during the period 1 April 2005 to 31 March 2006:
- **Western Cape**
  - Blaauwberg Commando
  - Clanwilliam Commando
  - Garden Route Commando (George)
  - Karoo Commando (Oudtshoorn)
  - Paarl Commando
  - Stellenbosch Commando
- **Eastern Cape**
  - Butterworth Commando
  - Kirkwood Commando
  - Recife Commando (Port Elizabeth)
  - Stormberg Commando (Cradock)
  - Port Elizabeth Commando
  - Wild Coast Commando (Port St Johns)
  - East London Commando
- **Northern Cape**
  - Barkley West Commando
  - Vaalharts Commando
- **Free State**
  - Brandfort Commando
  - Bullfontein Commando
  - Phillippolis Commando
  - Sandrivier Commando
  - Wepener Commando
  - Bothaville Commando
  - Caledon River Commando
  - Fauriesmith Commando
  - Ficksburg Commando
- **KwaZulu-Natal**
  - Durban North Commando
  - Durban South Commando
  - Northern Natal Commando
- **Mpumalanga**
  - Lebombo Vlakte Commando (Malelane)
  - Limpopo
  - Letaba Commando (Tzaneen)
  - Phalaborwa Commando
  - Potgietersrus Commando
  - Soutpansberg Commando (Makhado)
  - Thabazimbi Commando
  - Waterberg Commando (Modimolle)
  - Magol Commando (Onverwacht)

**North West**
- Coligny Commando
- Delareyville Commando
- Goosen Commando (Stella)
- Kalahari Commando (Vryburg)
- Klersdorp Commando
- Potchefstroom Commando
- Zeerust Commando

**Gauteng**
- Alberton Commando
- Brakpan Commando
- Brits Commando
- Broederstroom Commando
- East Park Commando
- Germiston Commando
- Johannesburg West Commando
- Pretoria East Commando
- Rietfontein Commando
- Roodepoort Commando
- Sandton Commando
- Vaal Commando (Vanderbijlpark)

The identification of the commando units that will close and when they will close down was done jointly between the SA Army, the SA Army Infantry Formation, Chief of Joint Operations and representatives who formed the SANDF/SAPS Implementation Task Team. Commando units identified for closure will terminate all support to the SAPS on 15 March of the year prior to their closure.

The commando members will have the option to demobilise, join the SAPS as a Reservist or join the SA Army Conventional Regiments as Reserve Force members. The members of the Group Headquarters identified for closure will be responsible for the closing administration and then they will be transferred to other units. (Issued by the SANDF, Directorate Corporate Communication, Media Liaison Section)
Questions and Answers on Commandos

Compiled by Maj Merle Meyer,
SO1 Comm SA Army Inf Fmn

How many members have served in the Commandos (Army Territorial Reserves)?
Before the phasing-out process started approximately 50 000 members served in the commandos.

Where do the majority of commando members come from?
Previously most of the commando members came from the rural areas, but later they come from urban and rural areas.

What were the recruitment criteria for the appointment of a commando member?
- Medically fit.
- Preferably Grade 12 or Matric.
- Not found guilty of schedule 1 criminal offences.

What is the racial and gender composition of commando members?

<table>
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<th>FEMALE</th>
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<td>15 134</td>
</tr>
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<td>5 659</td>
<td>32 136</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3 951</td>
<td>675</td>
<td>4 626</td>
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<tr>
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<td>304</td>
<td>24</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>43 429</td>
<td>8 795</td>
<td>52 224</td>
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</tbody>
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Are commando members paid for their services or is it voluntary?
The commando system formed part of the Reserve Force system of the SANDF and this meant that the commando members were not employed full time by the SANDF and only served on a part time and voluntary basis. However, the commando members received payment for each day or period of a day that they were officially on duty. This is known as a man-day and each Reserve Force unit was allocated a certain amount to be paid out as man-days in order to execute their tasks. This payment depended on the rank of a member and at rifleman (Rfn) level their educational qualifications determined what they were paid per day. For example: A Rfn with Grade 10 received R104.66 per day, while a Rfn with Grade 12 received R120.21 (before the 4.6% increase in July 2005). Full-time employment was not a requirement for employment as a commando member and therefore no statistics are available on how many members were otherwise employed. However, it is estimated that approximately 60% of commando members were employed on a full-time or part-time basis or were self-employed.

Will the security of South Africans be negatively affected by the phasing out of commandos?
No. The Department of Defence (DOD) and the Department of Safety and Security will ensure that there is no vacuum between the phasing out of commandos and the replacement by the South African Police Services (SAPS) in areas where they are re-quired. There is a joint SANDF Exit and SAPS Entry Strategy which is revisaged regularly in order to prevent a security vacuum. It is always important to remember that internal policing is not a military function, but the SANDF is always ready to support the SAPS when and where required.

How did the commandos support the SAPS?
All role players at military, strategic, operational and tactical level conduct joint planning. Whenever intelligence indicated that an operation had to be conducted in a certain area, joint planning was done and separate instructions issued by the appropriate departments, eg the Department of Safety and Security or the DOD. Once a commando was in possession of operational instructions it conducted the operation in conjunction with the SAPS. These operations included crime prevention operations with the SAPS, such as outer perimeter security, hearth and home protection, etc. Each commando had a mobile reaction force capability and was also involved with disaster relief as was seen recently at the scene of the Stilfontein earthquake.

What will happen to the commando members after their unit is closed?
The commando member has three options:

1. He or she can demobilise and will no longer be a member of the SANDF.
2. The member can join the SAPS as a reservist.
3. The member can join the Army Conventional Reserve (ACR) regiments and continue to serve in the SANDF if he or she complies with the age and medical criteria. (Several former commando members are already undergoing conversion training to be utilised in the ACR.)

The commando members are encouraged to remain involved with the safety and security of their communities and one way is to become involved with the local community policing forums. The commando member has been taught excellent skills such as leadership, discipline, planning and to be a dedicated and committed soldier, ie skills that will enhance any civilian company that employs him or her.

How will the phasing-out process work?
The decision as to which commandos will close, and when, have been jointly decided by J OPS, the SA Army, the SA Army Infantry Formation and the SAPS. These decisions depend on where the SAPS can take over the function of the commando, and the crime level in the area. All members not opting to be transferred to the ACR will be transferred to the personnel reserve list. The rent contracts of commando facilities will be terminated where applicable, and the facilities that belonged to the SANDF if he or she complies with the age and medical criteria. (Several former commando members are already undergoing conversion training to be utilised in the ACR.)

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Our Air Force - An African Perspective

Article courtesy Ad Astra magazine

The focus and direction of defence in Southern Africa is rapidly maturing from a purely national to a dual approach, including the concept of collective defence. To achieve this it is imperative that there is an alignment of operational procedures and compatibility of systems and procedures between neighbouring countries in the region. This can only be fully tested through joint exercises with all relevant Services. In this article the Chief of the South African Air Force outlines our Africa Perspective.

In the context of continuing strife and conflict on the African continent, air power is emerging as one of the most valuable tools for use in endeavours to bring lasting peace and stability to the troubled regions. With South Africa playing a leading role in bringing peace and democracy to the continent, the SA Air Force is privileged to find itself in a position to bring the intrinsic qualities of air power into play in a manner that serves not only the people of South Africa, but indeed the region and the continent.

If it is to succeed, the SA Air Force needs to collaborate with the other air forces of the region and the continent. With a view to this, the SA Air Force is actively and continuously seeking opportunities to train and interact with other air forces on the continent, and there is no doubt that this will be one of the key success factors in future multinational operations, undertaken as part of the operations of the African Standby Force. Similarly, there is a need to achieve acceptable levels of interoperability among regional air forces, not only in the fields of equipment and armaments, but even more specifically in the areas of doctrine, operational planning, and command and control. The maintenance of defence capabilities remains the most important objective of the SANDF, a fact that has been confirmed by the decision to acquire the Hawk trainer and the Gripen light fighter, whose delivery starts in 2008. The central theme of African operations, whether these are in support of peace missions or post conflict reconstruction, is competent airlift. The inadequate land and rail transport systems of the continent dictate that people, equipment and supplies be moved by air when quick and efficient responses to crises are required. In this respect the SA Air Force will continue to rely on its fleet of C130 and B 707 aircraft in the medium term, a capability that will be considerably enhanced by the delivery of eight A400M strategic airlift aircraft, starting in 2010. Innovative employment concepts are currently under review to ensure that the cost per nautical mile of ownership of these aircraft is kept at the lowest level possible.

The tactical mobility of the SA Air Force remains the responsibility of the locally developed Oryx medium transport helicopters, which provide excellent payload-range ratios under extreme climatic conditions. The Oryx fleet will receive a maintainability and functionality upgrade in due course. The Agusta A 109 is being delivered to the SA Air Force as the replacement for the Alouette III. The rejuvenation of the helicopter fleet is being completed with the current acquisition of Super Lynx maritime helicopters that will serve aboard the newly acquired patrol corvettes of the SA Navy from 2007.

The SA Air Force is systematically shaping its profile into a tactical, deployable air force, capable of sustained operations away from home bases, with logistic support that is sufficiently agile to sustain the simultaneous deployment of several smaller pockets of air assets under severe operational conditions. This, we believe, is key to our ability to react swiftly to contingencies in the region, to provide dependable air capabilities at very short notice, and to keep these forces adequately sustained while they are on missions. By far the single most critical element in providing superior air capabilities in the service of our nation and the continent is well trained, competent and motivated people. Our aviation awareness programme, Siyandza (‘We Fly’) will continue in its present outreach to all corners of the country. The creation of an awareness of aviation as a career of choice amongst the youth will remain a strategic objective of the Air Force for the foreseeable future, and bringing the elite of school leavers to the Air Force remains one of our highest priorities. Notwithstanding meaningful progress over the past few years, the SA Air Force is still transforming and the future will see a force that is representative of the composition of the population of our country in terms of race and gender.

Basic flying training is currently under scrutiny. I visualise a situation where the SMF will adopt an approach of using cheap to operate side-by-side training aircraft, which are not necessarily owned or operated by the Air Force for the initial phase of flying training. Basic rotary wing conversion
could see the same shift in approach. The SA Air Force will, however, continue to qualify pilots for their wings on the PC 7. The cost of providing adequate levels of combat ready air capabilities remains an obstacle in the way of our force preparation objectives. Streamlining logistic support, optimising personnel structures to sustainable levels, producing daily sortie rates per base that are in equilibrium with the capacity of the support components of these bases, and selectively reducing the footprint of the SA Air Force are measures under consideration to improve the currently unfavourable fixed-to-variable cost ratio of the operating budget. The SA Air Force faces the challenge of selecting and developing technologies that will greatly enhance air operations, yet will be sufficiently robust to withstand the rigorous operating conditions of the continent. The future operational environment will require us to be prepared and equipped to practise continual surveillance under both clear and adverse weather conditions, introduce affordable precision munitions with smaller warheads that can limit collateral damage, operate at night under a wide range of atmospheric conditions and provide ‘support within our means’ to our deployed air assets. There will be great emphasis on the fusion of sensors and the enhancement of current electronic warfare capabilities. These challenges are at once daunting and exciting, and, as we make steady progress towards the strategic objective of creating a dependable, combat-ready air force in service of its country - we are indeed proud to make such a tangible contribution towards peace and stability on the continent of Africa.

Our Air Force flying high in Zimbabwe

By Maryke Lynn, Journalist Ad Astra
Photos: WO2 Christo Crous

The SA Air Force received an invitation from the Zimbabwe Air Force to participate in its Open Day to be held at Prince Charles Aerodrome in Harare on 10 and 11 September 2005. In the same spirit of cooperation within the SADC Standing Aviation Committee the Chief of the Air Force of Zimbabwe invited the Chiefs of the air forces and commanders of the air wings to attend the Open Day as part of the Zimbabwean Defence Force Silver Jubilee Celebrations. This event presented the SA Air Force with the opportunity to improve relations and cooperation among military and civilian aviators in the subregion. The SA Air Force’s participation is also in line with the intention of the Chief of the SA Air Force, namely to foster closer and better support and cooperation with our immediate neighbours with the emphasis on turning the SA Air Force into a vibrant tactical air force, capable of deploying expeditiously on the African continent and beyond. This provides an opportunity to prepare the SA Air Force of the future to reach out to other air forces in the SADC region. The SA Air Force must therefore achieve interoperability with other air forces, which is required for serving side by side in a future standing force. Our participation in the Zimbabwean Air Force Show is also in support of the objectives of the SADC Standing Aviation Committee, viz to develop and maintain an aviation capability in the subregion and to enhance regional cooperation through coordinated air shows and displays. The following SA Air Force aircraft participated in the air show on 10 September 2005: a B707, two Cheetah’s, a Rooivalk, a C208, five PC 7 Astra (Silver Falcons), a C130, an Oryx, a C212 and a Citation. Our skydiving team, the Golden Eagles, also participated in the event. The SA Air Force’s contribution to this event was highly appreciated by the Zimbabwean Defence Force and added glamour and value to the occasion.

Zimbabwean Defence Force members posing at the SA Air Force Rooivalk helicopter.

A Zimbabwean Air Force member informing the delegation at the Zimbabwean Air Force Open Day, on the far right is Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano, the Chief of the SA Air Force.
September 2005 marked the birth of the National Military Social Work Conference. It was the first, but definitely not the last one. The conference was held at Kopanong Conference Centre in Benoni and was a delightful event. The theme was "Building Sustainable Military Community Resilience Through Collegial Networking and Support".

The conference ran for three days. The Surgeon General, Lt Gen Vejaynand Ramlakan, gave the opening address and reminded everyone there that building resilience was important as life was never without challenges. He added that networking and support were critical because "no man is an island". He believed that the social workers’ objectives should be "to promote resilience of DOD members to ensure division readiness for missions". In the process he congratulated Brig Gen Ntsiki Motumi, Director of Social Work, on the exemplary work she had done in this Directorate and that it was clear that "if there is commitment from the highest levels down, the job one does will not be a nightmare".

Lt Gen Ramlakan added: "It is evident that the South African Military Social Work Service is excellent because our soldier’s role is operationalised". He said that he was glad that this Directorate was walking the talk by actually deploying with our troops, and that this in turn served as a demonstration that their services were linked to the SANDF’s core business.

The Surgeon General commended the Directorate’s output and said that as a result it served as a sterling example that members from previously disadvantaged groups could contribute to organisational objectives. He said that it was through the resilience committee that their Director heeded the externally deployed troops’ call. By engaging with SARS their allowances can be exempted from taxation.

The Directorate’s efforts in the fight against HIV and AIDS are shown through their active involvement in Project Masibambisane and Project Phidisa, which has seen good results that have not been found elsewhere in the world. And these are possible under the leadership of Brig Gen Motumi. This first conference came at a time when the Directorate has to ensure that human capacity is built in order to empower SANDF members to effectively fulfil their role in establishing peace and security in the region. He made it clear that it was known to them how HIV and AIDS had affected their association, and thus building a healthy military community was of critical importance.

The Surgeon General urged the Directorate to break new ground and build new frontiers. He also said they should make sure that the services they provided continued to be relevant and they had to address both organisational and individual needs, as they would be held accountable.

In his closing statement the Surgeon General said that the social workers should base their service delivery on their professional code of conduct. "Continue to seize the opportunity and make sure that we have combat ready, able and willing social workers to meet organisational demands." He told them that he would be looking forward to recommendations and the action plan of this particular conference, which was the first of many to follow annually.
SA Youth Participate in UK Schools Aerospace Challenge

By Col André Coetzer, Coordinator of the Aerospace Challenge in SA
Photo: F Sgt Sabian du Buois

The Schools Aerospace Challenge is an annual event in the UK that aims to attract top achievers into further education and, ultimately, a career in aerospace. This Challenge is a joint venture run by the Cranfield University (a world-renowned aerospace teaching facility), the Royal Air Force and Aviation Industry partners in the UK. Teams from various schools and Air Training Corps squadrons in the UK competed in this year’s challenge.

In 2003, an invitation was passed to South Africa to enter a team of five members, the first team ever outside the UK to participate in this competition. The South African team made such an impression on the organisers in 2003 that the invitation was repeated in 2004 and again in 2005. The international flavour that the South African team has brought to the competition has also sparked the organisers to invite a second international team from Singapore this year. This competitive mechanism is used to stimulate the youth and spark an interest in the field of aerospace sciences. In order to help secure South Africa’s own aeronautical/aviation future, the SA Air Force, Department of Education and the local aviation industry are enthusiastically supporting the Challenge and also act as mentors to the selected learners. This venture holds mutual benefits for South Africa, the SA Air Force and the education fraternity, not to mention the impact on the youth in South Africa. Government has earmarked the aerospace sector as a strategic asset for additional investment in skills and infrastructure. The intention is to grow and develop the sector so that it can take its rightful place and make a meaningful contribution to the South African economy through the acquisition of knowledge, the creation of jobs, technological innovation and new revenues from local and export sales of South African products and services. The South African team was selected from the Aviation Academy residing at the Waterkloof High School in Pretoria. The selection was based on an aviation-related assignment, aptitude testing by the Military Psychological Institute, a selection board and recommendations by the Waterkloof High School. The team left South Africa on 10 August and returned on 25 August 2005. Their visit included participation in the Aerospace Challenge and various visits to aviation companies such as Rolls Royce, BAE Systems and Airbus (Military). This year’s SA team was fully sponsored by Airbus (Military), BAE Systems, the British Council (Southern Africa) and Rolls Royce. The preparation and mentoring of the team was done by the SA Air Force, AEROSUD, BAE Systems, DEFENCETEK (CSIR), ATE and Denel.

The team members. Back, fltr: Erika Shade-Weskott, Barry Masoga (British Council), Ernst Conradie (team leader), Lt Gen Carlo Gagiano (Chief of the SA Air Force and the Patron of the Challenge) and Busisiwe Ndlazi. Front, fltr: Deon Nieuwoudt and Phalane Mkhize.
Businessmen got a taste of our military

By Lethube Phasha
Photos: Cpl J. Thirion

On 28 September 2005 the Chief of the SANDF again invited people on a visit to military installations, but this time it was different; the visit was to Cape Town and the guests were businessmen from all over our beautiful country.

The day the guests arrived they had their welcoming function at Stimanzi in Thaba Thswane, where they were addressed by Maj Gen Mohato Mofokeng, the Chief Defence Foreign Relations. Brig Gen Kwenane Mangope, Director Corporate Communication, accompanied the businessmen on behalf of the Chief of the SANDF, Gen Godfrey Ngwenya.

Since these men are used to the civilian way of doing business they were exposed to the military way of doing things and they started off by flying to their destination in a C130 Hercules flown by the crew of 28 Squadron.

On arrival at Ysterplaat Air Force Base they were welcomed at a small air show, after which Col Daan Boschoff, SSO OPS Comm Joint Operation Division, gave them a presentation regarding the SANDF Force Employment Process. The presentation that seemed to interest our guests the most was delivered by Mr Kopano Lebelo, the Deputy Chief Acquisition and Procurement, as it dealt more with the business side of things and that is what these guests excelled in. Mr Lebelo explained to the guests all the steps involved in acquiring tenders, including applying for different tenders in the DOD. The guests had many questions, but owing to time constraints they were requested to reserve their questions for dinner when Mr Lebelo would answer all their questions.

After all the presentations at Ysterplaat we were on our way to Simon’s Town where we had the pleasure of enjoying the beautiful scenery that Cape Town had to offer. On arrival at Simon’s Town the guests were served lunch before their briefing on the SA Navy delivered by R Adm Arné Sutherland, Acting Director Fleet Special Task. The guests and I were surprised to know that South Africa had more sea than land. The different ships and corvettes of our SA Navy were also shown to them.

When all was done at the SA Navy, they were taken to the Cape Town Highlanders, which is a Reserve Force regiment. Here they received a brief history of the regiment.

On the last day of the visit the guests went to Langebaanweg Air Force Base’s Central Flying School where Lt Col Rodney King, Chief Flying Instructor, gave them a briefing on the school. They were also shown some of the aircraft, which were used to teach the students.

The guests were all enjoying the visit, but were tired of presentations and they wanted to see some action, which was exactly what was waiting for them at SAS SALDANHA. There they found the students of the Military Skills Development (MSD) Programme ready to give them a parade they would forever remember.

The unit had prepared displays for the guests: we had the SAS SALDANHA Marching Band, a precision drill display, which was entirely conducted by two drums. The retreat ceremony was also on display and the choir gave us
Colonel walking the extra mile

By Usha Naidu, an educator at Glenwood High School

So often in our everyday life the speed at which we progress prevents us from acknowledging individuals in uniform that really have a passion for the SA Air Force far beyond the blue uniform they are wearing. An individual worth commending for the keen interest that he takes in educating and uplifting South African youth is Col Graham du Toit from Air Command Unit in Pretoria.

Teenage boys can be a handful. Getting them to co-operate, sit still without fidgeting and listen attentively is a tall order for any teacher, let alone someone from outside the ranks of the profession. When Col Du Toit suddenly enters a class at Glenwood High School in Durban the learners sit up, all smiles, ready to welcome their hero. The amiable and entertaining colonel has forged such a strong relationship with the learners of Glenwood High School that they look forward to his visits and await his arrival at their school with great anticipation.

Col Du Toit is often called upon to give a lecture to the learners on various battles, and he also regales them with tales and experiences from his days as an air traffic controller. “The Colonel” as he is fondly known, makes time to visit the school at least once a term and his visits usually coincide with a ceremonial event. His most recent visit was for the Commemoration of the Battle of Delville Wood. He was called upon to lay wreaths at the memorial at the school, while the mournful strains of The Last Post reminded the boys of the great sacrifices made by youngsters, some only aged 16, in honour of their country. Glenwood High School lost four of its pupils in this battle alone, and 26 in World War I.

Teachers at Glenwood High School are grateful for his first-hand knowledge and they eagerly look forward to his next visit in November.
Thirty-nine military officers from 33 African countries reaffirmed the enormous and outstanding quality of human potential that the continent possesses in its officer corps. This is particularly relevant to NEPAD and AU initiatives that encourage indigenous solutions for the challenges that Africa faces in its pursuit of sustainable human centered development.

The role of the security sector in general, and the military in particular, has and will always be instrumental in these pursuits. The inaugural Next Generation of African Military Leaders Programme (NGAMLP) complements these efforts in its striving to hone the skills, expertise and knowledge of officers that have been identified as the next generation of African Military leaders. The programme was hosted from 25 April to 20 May 2005 by the Africa Centre for Strategic Studies (ACSS) at the National Defence University in Washington DC. Lt Col P. Daniels of the Military Academy and Lt Col D. Moore of Joint Operations had the privilege of representing the SANDF on this occasion.

Issues such as leadership, ethics and professionalism, and the significance of especially the last two, were thoroughly examined during the programme. This was complemented by an assessment of issues such as Civil Military Relations, National Security Studies and Defence Economics, to highlight the integrated and multi-disciplinary nature of contemporary military leadership. Course material focused on continental examples, while readings authored by leading African scholars were emphasised. Eminent African speakers made presentations on related topics during plenary sessions. These included Prof Eboe Hutchful, Dr Chris Fomunyoh, Dr Ebrahim Wani and Dr Raymond Gilpin. Several four-star generals, former US ambassadors to Africa and senior African military leaders from Kenya and Nigeria were also invited to share their views on issues that relate to African military leadership.

The highlight of the plenary sessions was the question and answer period, which made for vigorous debates. Here, diverse perspectives and experiences met, and long held beliefs and assumptions were challenged and often insolently debunked. The lively exchanges where Anglophone, Francophone and Lusophone perspectives converged over time, language, historical and social diversities, made this a learning opportunity par excellence. It made for ‘thick descriptions’ that created vivid images of issues related to corruption, coups and genocide. This free flow of opinions was made possible because of the non-attribution principle that was agreed upon.

The opportunity was also utilised to visit well-known institutions, such as the Pentagon, the State Department and Capitol Hill. These were interspersed with visits to well-known military institutions, such as the Marine Corps Base at Quantico Virginia, the US War College in Carlisle PA, and the Gettysburg National Military Park, where the decisive battle between the North and South was fought. Relevant is the remark of an accompanying Afro-American: “If the North had lost, I would still be working for free”. Other bases included the Joint Forces Staff College in Norfolk, which is in the vicinity of the largest naval base in the world. On a cultural level, a baseball game in the RFK stadium, an old-fashioned southern BBQ and even a special pizza lunch were delightful highlights. The intention is to host the course twice a year for at least forty participants. SANDF officers are advised to avail themselves of this opportunity, not only because the US carries most of the cost, but also because it supports the millennium goals of the continent. It creates a great opportunity to network and establish ties with future military leaders on the continent. The ACSS website is: www.africacenter.org.
Plant a tree, grow our future

By CPO Keith Linderoth, Naval Base Simon’s Town Environmental Services

As is the custom, Naval Base Simon’s Town Environmental Services, in partnership with the Department of Water Affairs and Forestry, celebrated Arbor Week with various tree planting ceremonies. Arbor Week takes place from 1 to 7 September each year. The theme for Arbor Week 2005 was ‘Plant a tree, grow our future’. The trees of the year are Schefflera umbellifera (false cabbage tree) and Adansonia digitata (baobab tree).

The Department of Water Affairs and Forestry (DWAF) donated 250 trees to Naval Base Simon’s Town, which were distributed to various organisations in the SA Navy. A number of trees were also donated to schools as part of the community outreach programme of the SA Navy. Because of the educational worth of Arbor Week, the Environmental Services involve as many naval personnel as possible when planting trees at the various departments and schools.

Two main Arbor Week events were planned for the Simon’s Town area. The first of these was on 1 September, which started with a tree planting ceremony at SAS SIMONSBERG. The Environmental Services invited 40 learners from Constantia Primary School to plant trees in Simon’s Town with the ship’s company of SAS SIMONSBERG. The assembly was addressed by Lt Cdr Van Rensburg, the executive officer of SAS SIMONSBERG, after which CPO KC Linderoth of Environmental Services planted the first tree and showed all present the proper way to plant a tree and how to care for it.

The second event took place at Stellenbosch on 2 September. Environmental Services invited DWAF and the Stellenbosch Municipality to participate in their Arbor Day activities, which took place in Khaya Mandi, Stellenbosch.

To make the day more productive, the Environmental Services visited Lückhoff High School in Stellenbosch, where they planted ten trees. Prior to the tree planting, the learners conducted a stage play depicting Arbor Day and the importance of trees. The Environmental Services then proceeded to Idas Valley Primary School, which is adjacent to the high school. CPO Linderoth addressed the learners, after which they also planted ten trees.

On 6 September, Environmental Services and the ship’s company of the mine hunter, SAS UMHLOTI, visited Mashiphumelele Primary School in Khayelitsha. WO2 B.V. Walters addressed the assembly on the importance of trees and why we had to look after our environment. The assembly then proceeded to plant ten trees on a barren patch of ground.

The second main tree-planting event of Naval Base Simon’s Town took place at Da Gama Park on 7 September. Environmental Services invited R Adm H.V.E. Bester (Flag Officer Commanding Naval Base Simon’s Town) and Alderman Holderness, (Ward Councillor of Simon’s Town) to participate in the tree planting in Da Gama Park. Because many alien trees had been eradicated in the Da Gama Park area, but never replaced by any other kind of trees, Environmental Services saw the need to plant a few indigenous trees in the area. R Adm Bester, Alderman Holderness and Sea Venter each planted a yellow-wood tree. The rest of the trees were planted by CPO M. Wyngaard and his maintenance crew.

Directly after the tree planting, WO2 Walters and CPO Linderoth proceeded to Touwsriver Military Training Area to attend the quarterly Environmental Services Regional Working Group conference. Four trees, donated by Naval Base Simon’s Town Environmental Services, were planted at the training area to conclude the activities of Arbor Week.

Overall, the Arbor Week activities were a big success. All parties involved, uniformed and civilian, benefited a great deal as the emphasis was on education and beautification.
State encourages studies

By Mr E.W. Badenhorst, Ass Dir Career Management (non-uniformed members)

Employees of the DOD, irrespective of race, colour, creed or sex have an inalienable right to have access to education and training opportunities as enshrined in the Constitution of the RSA.

Therefore the DOD annually presents selected personnel (uniformed and non-uniformed officials) with the opportunity to improve their competence by means of financial assistance to obtain formal qualifications.

Studies at State expense is a development tool, which provides needs-driven assistance to DOD employees in order to ensure an effective and competent workforce that meets the objectives of the Department and addresses the needs of employees. Although a fine balance has to be achieved between the two, emphasis should be placed on the requirements of the DOD.

Owing to financial constraints it is also imperative that training needs are prioritised to ensure the principles of effectiveness, efficiency and economy when spending Government funds. Transparent selection criteria must be used.

The decision to study must be well thought through and should be based on sound and objective principles. A rushed or emotionally based decision may result in failure. Tertiary educational institutions are experiencing a first-year average drop-out rate of 47%. The following considerations should be taken into account:

- Weigh up the short and long-term benefits.
- Consider the applicability to current and future utilisation.
- Verify your ability (potential) to master the content.
- Consider the reason/motivation for studies - was it your own decision or was the decision based on external or social pressure? Are you motivated?
- When last were you engaged in studies?

Do you have a support base and accommodative environment, eg supportive supervisor, colleague, spouse, time to study, etc.

- Does your work schedule allow this extra burden?
- Do you have the financial means to buy textbooks and other study material?

Where should I study?

Studies at State expense have to be undertaken at a South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA) accredited private or public ETD institution that offers accredited qualifications. These institutions include for...

...in the Department of Defence.

- Do you have transport to attend evening classes (part-time)?
- The learner needs to get the support of his or her supervisor or manager before engaging in such an endeavour.

The following guidelines should have a positive influence on study success:

- Discuss your plans with colleagues and your career manager.
- Voluntarily undergo a career assessment exercise to confirm the correlation between the envisaged studies and the preferred career choice.
- Do proper research at various Education, Training and Development (ETD) institutions as to study directions, subject compilation, entry requirements, postgraduate possibilities and application value.
- Apply sound study techniques, eg mind mapping, time management, smart reading, summarising, etc.
- Address poor study habits.
- Discipline, a study programme and commitment are building blocks for academic success.
example universities and further education and training colleges. Your choice of an ETD institution should be based on the following considerations:

- Location - physical distance is important should the learner have to attend evening or weekend classes, contact sessions and write assessments.
- Whether the institution has the desired qualification on offer or not.
- Financial implications.

Which qualification should I consider?
Qualifications considered for study at State expense include short learning opportunities, Grades 10/12 or the technical qualification equivalent thereof, occupational directed certificates, higher certificates, advanced certificates, national diplomas, first degrees and postgraduate studies. The focus is on obtaining formal National Qualifications Framework (NQF) qualifications. The choice of qualification is very important as it has a direct bearing on a career and motivation to study, as well as on further studies.

Why use this opportunity?
Each employee is primarily responsible for managing his or her own career. ETD is an important mechanism to improve competency and promote the chance to achieve career goals. Qualifications do not guarantee employment or job security, but have many benefits, eg they

- improve one’s candidature when competing for jobs; and
- shape your thinking and broaden your perspective (frame of reference).

Because the State makes an investment in the development of its employees, it is justified in demanding a return on investment. The two parties therefore have to engage in a written contract to regulate the various conditions and requirements.

The employee or learner has to:

- Submit proof of registration, academic results and other applicable info to the relevant Contract Managing Authority (CMA) in good time.
- Make sufficient academic progress.
- Complete the qualification within the contract time.
- Keep the CMA informed of changes in circumstances that have an influence on the contract conditions and stipulations.
- Complete the qualification within the contract time.
- Keep the CMA informed of changes in circumstances that have an influence on the contract conditions and stipulations.

How do I apply?
The opportunity to apply for study at State expense is advertised annually by the end of March and application forms must be submitted to the Career Manager by 31 July.

All prospective applicants must complete the prescribed application form (available at the Directorate Career Development and the other four CMAs [Services]). The application is also signed by the applicants’ line manager, General Officer Commanding, Officer Commanding or Director and budget manager, whereafter it is considered by an ETD Application Board. The learners will be notified in writing of the outcome. Study contracts with the DOD are completed in blue ink and in triplicate.

On completion of the qualification the learner must submit authentic proof thereof to the CMA. It is the learner’s responsibility to ensure that the qualification is submitted for capturing on the PERSOL system.

The contractual obligation requires that full-time learners only redeem (work back) their contractual obligation on completion of the qualification. Part-time learners need to complete a year’s service on completion of the qualification. For example, a three-year National Diploma learner redeems year one in year two, year two in year three and the last year in year four.

Officials should contact their respective Career Managers to enquire about ETD opportunities. Directorate Career Development welcomes any enquiries from non-uniformed officials pertaining to study and career related matters.

Warrant Officer scoop top award

By Dolly Ramalepa, PRP PRISA Education and Training Centre

WO2 Wynand Koekemoer, Air Force Webmaster, received the Murray and Roberts Top Learner Trophy at the PRISA Education and Training Centre Graduation in Randburg.

WO2 Koekemoer completed the Centre’s most popular course, the Certificate in Public Relations Practice. This learning programme provides an in-depth coverage of the nature and scope of public relations practice and the planning of public relations and communication management programmes.

The learning programme was scheduled in Durban, Cape Town and Namibia last year. Approximately 90 practitioners wrote exams for this learning programme in 2004 as well as the beginning of 2005 and WO2 Koekemoer received the highest course average of 71%. He was very delighted and said that “in today’s fast-paced world of rapid change and
**Top academic received second doctorate**

By Lt Col Tony Letcher  
Photo: Mr Willie de Beer

On 28 April 2005 Col (Dr) Kosie Oschman, the Officer Commanding of Air Publication Service Centre, received his second doctorate from Unisa, namely the D Admin in Public Administration, with his thesis on Total Quality Management.

As a highly qualified academic, Col (Dr) Oschman completed the following qualifications for his career, namely an Electrical Telecommunication Technician Manpower Certificate, Programme in Maintenance Management, Programme in Financial Management, Programme in Operations Management, NND, NTD, NHD (Cum Laude), M Dip Tech (Cum Laude), B Admin (Cum Laude), Hons B Admin (Cum Laude), M Admin (Cum Laude), MBA (Cum Laude), PhD in Business Administration and D Admin in Public Administration.

When I asked this down-to-earth and humble Col (Dr) Oschman what his secret was for his successes in the academic world and military career he answered: “To be successful in life and to add spice to it, all in today’s world should grab life with enthusiasm and take control of their future to live their full potential right now! My motto is to go the extra mile to do what is right. Everybody should start applying lifelong learning for him or herself as a habit to learn from everyday events. Regardless of the current level of success or lack of it, we should treat every situation as an opportunity and gain some new choices and flexibility”.

To achieve even more success in life is a human challenge and the only way is to establish a “foundation of excellence and integrity” within oneself, by doing the following: Be your own committed leader in life to enlarge your vision, formulate you own purpose and plan for the future, raising your level of expectancy through self-empowerment, network with others through teamwork, continuously improve everything you start by breaking the barriers of the past, treat everyone as your customer, learn to become a master of communication, live to give through enthusiasm, anchor a culture of self-inspiration and self-discipline, become a change catalyst, regularly self-assess yourself, see yourself as a system to deliver the goods, organise your inter and intra-life related activities as a process to deliver value for yourself, appreciate every day, learn to smile more often and focus on your dreams”. Col (Dr) Oschman believes that there is no gap between the theories he espouses and their practice. He argues that it depends on the individual how he applies his academic learning in his functional work and life.

Col (Dr) Oschman has received various awards during his academic studies. In 1989 he received the “Communica Award” from Tshwane University of Technology for the best engineering student. In 1994 and 1995 he received a merit bonus from Unisa for the student with the highest marks in Industrial Psychology and Public Administration. In 1997 he received the UNISA/SAIPA floating trophy for the best final year student in the Public Administration Department. In 1999 and 2002 he received merit bursaries from Unisa to complete the M Admin and D Admin degrees based on his outstanding results in his Hons B Admin and M Admin.

In his military career Col (Dr) Oschman also received various military awards, but the one he values the most was one he received in 2000 when he successfully completed the Senior Command and Staff Course where he received the floating trophy for the best student. In addition he received four floating trophies for best tasks in the Senior Command and Staff Course 1/2000 and he received a floating trophy, medal and certificate from Chile for his task in which he provided the best macro-analysis of the influence of national, regional and global affairs on the ability of the RSA to deal with conflict in the short term, with specific reference to the South African Development Community (SADC) region.

Col (Dr) Oschman is busy with his first book, which will be completed in November 2005. It will be called “Inspiration”. He is also busy developing a unique training programme called "The Complete Excellence Programme", which will consist of five modules. The SA Air Force, and especially the Air Publication Service Centre, is proud to have such a dynamic leader, who is an inspiration to others.
An outstanding achiever
By CPO Dennis Ndaba

The idea of the "learning organisation" offering the promise of meeting organisations' needs to change, adapt and improve continuously. It attempts to encourage, facilitate and support the development of individual employees so that the organisation itself also "learns". This ultimately will lead to an enhanced capacity within the specific organisation and the resulting credibility will not only lead to an increased rate of success, but also academic acclaim for the organisation's workforce. Pedlar, Burgoyne and Boydell (1991) as stated in the Open University's Organising for Innovation (2002), define a learning organisation as: "...an organisation that facilitates the learning of all its members and continuously transforms itself". One of the role players at middle management level within the SA Army who understands the commitment required from individuals aspiring towards a learning organisation is Col Tony Benadé. He has just completed his Master in Business Administration (MBA) degree through a joint venture between the University of South Africa (Unisa) Graduate School of Business Leadership and the Open University Business School, Milton Keynes, United Kingdom. Other academic achievements to his name are: Diploma in Advanced Professional Management; Diploma in Strategic Studies at the US Army College, Pennsylvania, United States; Certificate in Professional Management; and Certificate in Military Management.

Areas he focussed on during his studies were, inter alia, corporate strategy, financial strategy, strategies for managing complex change and change management skills, strategic and organisational planning and practice, management of organisational functioning and effectiveness and developing management competence, to name only a few. A firm believer in the empowerment of the workforce, Col Benadé understands and has experienced the benefits it brings. It increases the SA Army's flexibility and speed of response. It also leads to a more co-operative and committed workforce that need not be coerced through management monitoring to achieve objectives successfully, but given their respective responsibilities will be expected to police themselves. The ultimate would be to achieve and maintain a highly motivated, quality focussed, credible and proud SA Army that can be trusted to produce quality output without the imposition of bureaucratic control procedures, a scenario which would have benefits for both parties.

Enchanted by our Air Force Band
By Tshidi Baloyi, Ad Astra

Tipfuxeni, a Tsonga name meaning "uplift yourselves", is a primary school in the Soshangue area. Most of the learners and staff members had never seen a live band perform before, but the SA Air Force Band made this possible on 23 August 2005. One of the band members, Sgt Moreochwenyo, was the Master of Ceremonies for this occasion. He kept the learners entertained. He started by introducing all the different instruments played in the band. One of the learners, a four year old, attempted to blow one of the biggest instruments, the sousaphone, which is played by F Sgt Makgale, but could not succeed - although he gave it his best shot! Four of the band members played a game called can-can, in which the learners had to pass a can around. The learners thoroughly enjoyed it, as they could not keep up with the music. Next the learners clapped along while the band played. One learner was asked not to clap, but rather to conduct the band. Capt Pienaar, the Bandmaster, wrote the notes from a couple of theme songs from television dramas and comedies on a board. He wrote songs from 7de Laan, Noot vir Noot and Friends, and the learners had to guess what the names of the shows were. The learners and staff members also danced energetically to the famous song "YMCA". Everybody was surprised and delighted when the band played one of Sipho "Hotsticks" Mabuza's songs: "Burn out". When the band finished playing the learners screamed for more, but the band unfortunately had to leave. The principal of the school, Ms M.C. Marivate, could not thank the band enough. "I've never seen a live band play before, except on television, and I am so grateful for this great opportunity," she said. However, Capt Pienaar replied that the band had enjoyed it even more than the learners and staff members. This is not the only school the band has played for, there have been other schools and there will be many more. "May God bless and keep you so you can play to other people who haven't heard you," was Ms Marivate's final message to the band.
More to military music than marching 90 years on

By WO2 Jack Simpson, SA Army Band Cape Town

The SA Army Band Cape Town is the country’s oldest Regular Force band. It originated in 1915 as the regimental band of the 1st Battalion of the Cape Corps, a famous fighting unit of World War I. When the band was deactivated in 1919 it continued on a part-time basis as a living memorial, and when the Cape Corps was reactivated at the outbreak of World War II, the band was the first element to return to full-time service.

If bands where awarded battle honours, the names of many famous battles and campaigns would be painted on its drums. It is noted in Commander John Imrie’s book that the Cape Corps Band did 180 performances in a month while on duty in Egypt. Commander John Imrie was the bandmaster at the time was Corporal Des Liebrandt, who was promoted through the ranks to Major and appointed Director of Music in 1978. WO1 Nathan Le Fleur then became bandmaster.

In 1986 the band moved premises to Wynberg Military Base. Major Liebrandt’s untimely death in 1988 left WO1 Le Fleur as Acting Director of Music, until the appointment of the present Director, Major Chris Nicholls, a classically trained flautist and conductor of note in 1990. At this time the name SA Army Staff Band Western Province Command was adopted. Since 1991 the band has been based at the Youngsfield Military Base. The Cape Corps was deactivated in 1992, but the band was retained as one of the five regional Army bands. The band again changed its name in 1994 to the SA Army Band Cape Town. In 2002 Capt Martin Chandler, the youngest qualified Director of Music in the Corps of Musicians, was appointed as the Assistant Director of Music and in 2003 WO1 Kallie Rhode was appointed Bandmaster. He passed the exam with the highest marks achieved. The band now has 36 members and enjoys, perhaps more than any other band in Africa, an unsurpassed reputation for versatility and excellence.

The SA Army Band Cape Town has won the annual best Military
Band Award since the inception of the Chief of the Army Competition. The SA Army Band Cape Town is widely regarded as one of the foremost military bands in Africa, and in 2000 established a music training course to assist other SADC countries to train their military musicians. The band is currently negotiating with the University of Stellenbosch to establish a suitable academic and practical certificate course that would be tailored to the specific requirements of the SANDF and its SADC counterparts. It is hoped that this course will eventually culminate in a full degree in military music.

The SANDF has also initiated a Military Skills Development (MSD) programme, of which music is one of the skills that can be selected by a candidate. The Army Band Cape Town has also been earmarked to teach these students, utilising the band’s existing structures.

The Army Band Cape Town has toured and performed extensively throughout the country, including at the Grahamstown National Arts Festival, among others, where they received standing ovations at all their performances. The band also recently enjoyed a very successful tour to the Klein Karoo Nasionale Kunstefees, and played to standing ovations and much acclaim, with one newspaper headline reading: “Army Band steals President’s thunder”. The band has also received much acclaim from the President’s Office for its performance at the opening of the third democratically elected Parliament, and is looking forward to performing again in 2006.

The band has performed for a myriad of dignitaries and heads of state, including the Queen of England, President Bill Clinton, Colonel Muhammar Gadaffi and Prime Minister Tony Blair, to name but a few. The band also performed at the swearing-in ceremony of Mr Nelson Mandela as the first democratically elected President of the Republic of South Africa. The SA Army Band performed a concert on 3 September 2004 in the Cape Town City Hall, featuring the Senior Director of Music of the SA Army, Lt Col Buczynski, playing Rhapsody in Blue by George Gershwin. The concert also featured the Cape Town City Hall’s carillon in a performance of Bells Across the Meadows to band accompaniment. The band also featured the Cape Town City Hall’s carillon in a performance of Bells Across the Meadows to band accompaniment. The SA Army Band Cape Town has also become accomplished in accompanying operatic soloists and choirs aided by the Director of Music, Maj Chris Nicholls, who has an intimate knowledge of conducting opera. It is a little known fact that the resident military band stationed in the Cape accompanied most early operas performed in Cape Town. A feature of all Army Band Cape Town’s concerts is Maj Nicholls’ attention to detail and firm belief in the unamplified acoustic sound of the military band. The band will be performing at various venues to celebrate its anniversary.

Another unique characteristic of the SA Army Band Cape Town is the very creative use of its trombones on the march. Instead of the traditional practice of positioning the trombones in the front of the band, the Army Band Cape Town utilises the trombones at the back of the band, which has a far more pleasing effect musically. Many of the SA Army Band Cape Town’s members also actively participate in the training of the local minstrel and Christmas bands.

The SA Army Band has made a firm commitment to the community of Cape Town to provide an unequivocal and sustainable musical service by performing regular concerts for the aged and being available to perform and promote music in primary and secondary schools; all that is required is a request from the institution concerned.

The band has three CDs for sale: “Marching with Pride” for the military band march enthusiast, “Esprit de Corps” and “On the Road” for secular military band music enthusiasts and “On the Road” a selection of live performances at Spier Amphitheatre in Stellenbosch.

Music performed by the SA Army Band Cape Town continues to constitute an integral part of the SANDF and, in particular, of the community of Cape Town. The band looks forward to many more years of dedication, loyalty and service of an exceptionally high standard by band members who put professionalism before personal gain.

Please do not hesitate to contact the band regarding any musical services that you may require.

Postscript
WO1 N.A. Rhode (Kallie) was promoted to glory after a short illness on 16 December 2004. Friends and colleagues alike will miss him dearly.

Hambe Kuhle (Go well).
Military operations are not successful by accident. At the lower level, some of the important aspects of successful operations are well-motivated soldiers, equipped with the right equipment and trained to perform the tasks expected of them. However, proper training involves high costs. In all armies the cost of personnel, the procurement of equipment and the associated cost of running and maintaining such equipment, inclusive of ammunition, result in a sizable portion of the defence budget. Simulated training represents enormous savings in time and money, and the SA Army has already made a sizable investment in this field.

It is accepted that simulators can never replace training with actual equipment, and when practising battle drills circumstances should be as close as possible to the actual battlefield. When the soldier under training undergoes basic weapon/crew training it is, however, beneficial to use much cheaper simulators to master basic skills because of the wear and tear of expensive equipment. Equally, it is not possible to train under enemy fire, and the only viable way to do realistic training in such an event is to use equipment that will simulate enemy fire.

The actual realism of live fire, coupled with the synthetic environment of simulated combat tools, will allow tomorrow’s soldier to attain a level of military training unprecedented in today’s mission rehearsal applications. Since realistic training is the end goal of all combat readiness activities, it is easy to see why live fire range scenario executions would greatly benefit from a direct link with the cost-effectiveness of simulated battlefield training exercises.

In order to obtain first-hand knowledge of live simulation the Landward Defence Capability Board under the Chairmanship of Maj Gen J. Jooste invited SAAB Training Systems, a leader in the provision of live simulation options, to demonstrate its capabilities to selected members of the SA Army.

The demonstration took place at the SA Army Engineer Formation on 18 August 2005. The event was hosted by CyberSim, a leading local C4ISR and Simulation company in the RSA.

Members of 1 Parachute Battalion were trained on the system by the representative of SAAB Training Systems and those of CyberSim prior to the demonstration. During the demonstration the effects of the system could be observed by all attending.

The demonstration was concluded with an after action review of the actual demonstration by means of the GAMER Man Pack. Since this type of training is of an order of magnitude less expensive than live simulation, it should be a natural growth area in a shrinking defence environment. It will allow the SA Army to train a force that is ready to perform its mission efficiently, which is an absolute necessity when the size of the force is being decreased.

**Description of the system**

SAAB Training Systems developed a modular, scalable and truly coherent system concept that fits the single soldier, as well as vehicle and weapon platforms. SAAB Training Systems focuses on live training and the company’s live training system GAMER has been the choice for many forces around the world, among them the Dutch, British and the US armed forces.

GAMER aims for reliability, realism and accurate analysis of results. The system is based on core elements that can be configured to meet the needs of deployable, mobile or fixed training for individual, crew and force-on-force. These core elements consist of the GAMER Man Pack, Instrumented Personnel Detection Device (PDD) and the Laser Simulator System BT 47.

The company’s light portable version is fully deployable and can be...
The GAMER system supports up to 60 people in a radius of up to 4 km. SAAB sees its main application as a training system that would travel with a platoon, which could continue training in the field or practise missions. The backpack contains a rugged command-and-control laptop, miniaturized radio base station, workstation soft-box, a harness to allow the workstation operator to move around the temporary range and control the exercise, a battery charger and a vehicle antenna kit. The battery operating time is about eight hours.

The command-and-control presentation gives a simultaneous display of the exercise with 2-D and 3-D terrain, 3-D player models, area weapons effects and after-action review tools.

Specifications for the Small Arms Transmitter (SAT) include:

- High accuracy in the Small Arms Transmitter.
- Laser only fired when blank round is fired.
- The status of the soldier fully controls the function of the SAT.
- High level of vulnerability possibilities in the harness.
- Low weight system, including instrumentation.
- Interoperable with future soldier systems.
- Generic Unit for a range of weapon types.
- Snap on bracket (no tools).
- Tamper proof.
- Very accurate beam shape.
- Low weight (0.7 lbs), including bracket and battery.
- All Lasers Class 1, Unconditional Eye Safe.

By Lt Lulamile Ntola,
SO3 Comm ASB Jhb

The Army Support Base Johannesburg (ASB Jhb) team participated in the annual Warrant Officer/Non-commissioned Officer Competition which took place at Army Gymnasium in Heidelberg over the period 29 August to 2 September 2005. The team consisted of sixteen members of whom seven were women. The team was led by WO1 Lucky Kali, the Team Manager. WO1 Johnny Mmakau, the Base Warrant Officer, accompanied the team to Heidelberg where they won the trophy. The team participated in the following categories: Pace Stick, Neatness, Individual Drill, Fitness, Orientation, Table 2 Shooting and Theory. They were tested to the limit of their abilities. Two cups were competed for, viz the Africa Cup and South African Cup. Four African teams took part: Zambia, Zimbabwe, Botswana and Nigeria. All four countries contested the Africa Cup, and Armour Formation, Infantry Formation and Air Defence Artillery Formation represented South Africa. The Air Defence Artillery Formation emerged as winners of the Africa Cup. Botswana won the cup last year. All eight formations of the SA Army took part in the South Africa Cup, including these four African countries. ASB Jhb took part in the competition under the auspices of the SA Army Support Formation when they won the South Africa Cup.

The Pace Stick Competition, in particular, was the favourite among the spectators. It is a very challenging competition because it involves precision drill and drill movements.

Total concentration is a necessity for the coordination of command and execution. The Senior Pace Stick team from ASB Jhb was driven by WO2 Andile Mpetheni and the team comprised Sgt Phillemong Menziwa, Sgt Jacob Pule and Sgt Daddy Felezweni. While not taking anything away from other teams, this team was a marvel to watch. The driver had put together a very good team. The preparations started in earnest with the team traveling to Potchefstroom for the regional championships, which they won convincingly. They went to Heidelberg in high spirits after their win in Potchefstroom. The total number of participants in the SA Army Warrant Officer and Non-commissioned Officer Competition per rank group was as follows: Warrant Officers (13), Staff Sergeants (17), Sergeants (20), Corporals (20) and Lance Corporals (24). Altogether 28 teams participated in the Pace Stick Competition in all categories.

The team of ASB Jhb will participate in England with the rest of the world on a date still to be confirmed. The members from ASB Jhb wish the team all the best in their quest for glory.
Air Force members update technology

By Capt C.J. Smith, Project Engineer, 5 Air Service Unit
Photo: F Sgt Kevin Willson

The Roodeval Bombing Range Video Plotting System Project was allocated to the SA Air Force - 5 Air Servicing Units' Engineering Services at Waterkloof Air Force Base in February 2003. The aim of the project was to enable more comprehensive operational evaluation of air-to-ground munitions on existing and future aircraft weapons platforms. The creation of this capability had been envisioned since 1997 and was initiated as part of the SA Air Force’s Vision 2012.

The existing De Wet Bombing Range, situated close to Bloemspuit AFB, was not in an operational state owing to outdated technology. By using the Roodeval Bombing Range near Makhado AFB aircraft would not have to fly long distances to get different ground munitions (air-to-ground) evaluated. This decision made a lot of sense with a view to establishing the know-how within the SA Air Force, which would directly impact on ease of maintenance and upgrading by the engineers and technicians of the SA Air Force.

The system consists of three video cameras mounted on towers that overlook designated targets. All video imagery is relayed to a central control unit where an operator uses the system to determine the impact of air-to-ground munitions on a designated target. The impact point is relayed to the pilot or trainee for bombing practice or weapons system calibration. Development of the system entailed the design and construction of two additional tower structures. Capt Fritz van Rooyen, the Mechanical Engineer, designed the structures.

These structures were designed to enable cameras to get visuals of all possible targets. They were extended approximately eight metres above the old existing towers. Specific foot pieces had to be designed to mount the towers onto the existing structures. Most of the manufacturing was completed at 1 Air Servicing Unit and local riggers performed the mounting of the towers.

The system required additional power reticulation to be supplied to the towers. Dr James Wheeler, the Electronic Engineer, co-ordinated the reticulation system upgrade. The power system upgrade entailed the design of a three-phase reticulation system to supply the towers with a 230Vac, 30 amp power capability. Mr Stian Myburg from Base Support Systems supported the reticulation system design. The three-phase system has kept the sub-station balanced, which would not have been the case with a single-phase system. This upgrade included the total wiring and upgrading of the towers. The 5 Air Servicing Unit Ground Systems section completed the wiring of the towers.

Furthermore, the system required three tower-mounted camera systems that could relay images to the central control unit in the main tower. Lt Christo Fouché, the Electronic Hardware System Engineer, designed the camera systems to capture video quality picture images from the three towers on the range. These pictures were relayed to the central control tower via an ultra-high frequency (UHF) link. The cameras were to be operated from the central control tower. A high frequency communications link was designed to control the cameras on the towers. All camera systems were designed, constructed and tested at 5 Air Servicing Unit.

In the central control tower a computer integrates all the video and control systems by making use of a software-user interface. Capt Rudie Potgieter, who is responsible for Electronic Hardware and Interfacing, has developed the software-user interface in cooperation with Capt Donovan Roodt. The software for the system displays all the images relayed to the central control unit using signal processing principles to calibrate the system to a specific target. After a target has been calibrated, bombing can commence and a simple click of a mouse gives the necessary directional input to the system to calculate the impact point of air-to-ground munitions, using a method of triangulation.

The User Requirement Statement of the project required the system to be accurate within five metres of impact on the furthest targets. Tests have shown that this system is accurate within one metre of this target. Furthermore, a time lapse of three minutes is allowed in the User Requirement Statement between bomb releases, and the system can currently complete a plot in less than thirty seconds with a competent operator. Multiple-impact plots of stick drops can also be detected using post processing, if such analysis is required.

Other engineers of 5 Air Servicing Unit who were involved with the project were Capt C.J. Smith, the Project Officer, and Capt M.J. Stander, who was responsible for the Test and Evaluation Master Plan, Failure Mode Effect Analysis and Project Planning. The Engineering Services development was supported by several stakeholders, namely Directorate Technical Support Services, Directorate Combat Systems, Directorate Base Support Systems, 3 Air Servicing Unit and all the personnel of the Roodeval Bombing Range, in particular WO1 Ralph Bates.
Fire-fighting as a career for women

By Lethube Phasha
Photo: F Sgt Amelia Strydom

Roles have changed in the defence forces and the winds of change are clear: women are infiltrating into fields they never dared to in the past, such as fire fighting. I was shocked and at the same time impressed to find four very young women working in the fire fighting environment. Being in this male dominated environment has never put these women down. One of them is already a sergeant, which proves that they are determined to make it through to higher ranks in the SA Air Force.

Now meet the female fire fighters working at Waterkloof Air Force Base: Amn Dudu Mazibuko (21) hails from Soweto. Her career started out after her matriculation when she enrolled in the Military Skills Development (MSD) Programme with the hope of becoming a pilot. Her height, though, shattered her dreams, but did not discourage her: she did a fire-fighting course instead, and has not looked back ever since.

Another MSD student, Amn Angel Mphuthi from Mpumalanga (24), loves her job to bits. She says that she always looks forward to being on standby as this gives her some sort of adrenaline rush. She has never believed that a woman’s place is in the kitchen. The tiniest of them is Amn Carina Alves (23) who is from the Pretoria area. She really proves that dynamite does come in small packages. Amn Alves is also a MSD student. The women all agree that working on standby is the best thing about their job as it gives them an adrenaline rush. They also made it clear that they did not just put out fires, as fires did not occur everyday. They also ensure the smooth running of the runway and see to the safety of the landing strip.

Sgt Petro de Jager (27) has been in the SA Air Force the longest and says she is delighted to have other women join her in this male dominated field. She feels that the men they work with are more like fathers than superiors. She would like to see more women do what she does. The youngsters also look up to her as she has the most experience of them all. She is always there to lend a hand when needed.

These women all agree that it is not that hard in this line of work because their shifts are very flexible. She feels that male and female are equal in this environment because everybody has to undergo the same training. There is really not that much pressure as they have enough time to do other things in life as well. For women working in such a vital field these four are quite a lively bunch.

Clockwise: Amn Carina Alves, Amn Dudu Mazibuko, Sgt Petro de Jager and Amn Angel Mphuthi in their fire fighting regalia.
Inclusion of dependant for medical purposes

By Mrs S. Cross, Chief Clerk
Medical Dependancy

When a baby is born, some of the hospitals will give you a form to fill in to enable you to register your baby with the Department of Home Affairs. If this facility is not available at the hospital or place of birth, then it is your responsibility to go to the Department of Home Affairs and register your baby.

As soon as you are in possession of the birth certificate, you must go to your duty room with a certified copy of the birth certificate and a request or application to register your baby on your strength for medical purposes. If you do not apply at the duty room with the necessary documents, your child will not be on your strength and will not be treated at any Military Health Facility. The on strength of a child does not happen automatically.

After the required documentation has been submitted by the member and verified as correct by the personnel clerk, the following actions must be taken by the clerk at your unit (only for children born within a legal marriage):

- A computerised form is completed in respect of each dependant of a member. The unit or service centre personnel clerk completing this form is called the compiler.
- The compiler hands the computerised form with the source document(s) over to the checker (also a personnel clerk).
- The checker signs the computerised form confirming that all the required source documents submitted are correct in all respects.
- The computerised form together with the source document is handed back to the compiler to capture the applicant’s information on the mainframe system.
- The compiler hands the computerised form and source document over to the approval officer for authorisation and approval on the system.
- The computerised form and source document must thereafter be filed on both the compiler’s file and the member’s personal file.

It is the parent’s responsibility to ensure that his or her child is timeously brought on strength. He or she must also ensure that all the correct documentation is submitted.

Child born within a legal marriage: The process as spelt out above must be followed to include your child.

Single Mother: As soon as you are in possession of the birth certificate, you must go to your duty room and complete the booklet “child born out of wedlock - single member”, attach a certified copy of the birth certificate, as well as a court order that stipulates that you are responsible for the baby’s medical expenses and maintenance or a DNA or tissue test to confirm paternity. Tests are arranged and done at your own expense. If paternity is proved, the receipts and copy of the results must be submitted to the SAMHS for a refund up to a maximum amount of R1 200. Hand in your application for the inclusion of the child at your unit, which will forward it to the Human Resource Support Centre for capturing and approval.

Single Father: As soon as you are in possession of the birth certificate, you must go to your duty room and complete the booklet “child born out of wedlock - single member”, attach a certified copy of the birth certificate, as well as a court order that stipulates that you are responsible for the baby’s medical expenses and maintenance or a DNA or tissue test to confirm paternity. Tests are arranged and done at your own expense. If paternity is proved, the receipts and copy of the results must be submitted to the SAMHS for a refund up to a maximum amount of R1 200. Hand in your application for the inclusion of the child at your unit, which will forward it to the Human Resource Support Centre for capturing and approval.

For any enquiries contact Mrs Botha at tel no: (012) 339 5333 or Mrs Cross at tel no: (012) 339 5327.

Go hlongwa ga Lebotho Tšhireletšo la Bosetšhaba la Bahlabani la Congo

Go fihleletšwe kgato engwe ka go hloma Lebotho Tšhireletšo la Bosetšhaba la Bahlabani la Congo ka la 28 Setemere 2005 ga 6th Brigade ya Lebotho Tšhireletšo la Bosetšhaba la Bahlabani leo le kopantsweego e alošwa ka phareiti kua Lubertzí, bohlabela bja Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Lebotho le le kopantswe ka lebaka la kwano magareng ga Afrika Borwa le DRC.

Ditona tša Tšhireletšo, ya Afrika Borwa le ya DRC, Mor. Mosiuoa Lekota le Dr Adolphe Onusumba, le Motlatša-tona wa Tšhireletšo wa Namibia, Mor. Victor Simunja, ba tseneteš phareiti yeo. Tona Lekota o swere dipoleolišano le baelapele ba DRC ba sepolotliki go hwetša tshedi-moso go fšwa melomong ya bona mabapi le go tšwetša pele tsela ya khusšo nageng ya bona.

Phareiti ya go alošwa ga 6th Brigade ya Lebotho la Bosetšhaba la Congo leo le kopantsweego e hlatsela tharollo le maikemišetšo a setšhaba go fihlelela khusšo nageng ya bona go ya go ile.

* The English version of this article is available on page 10. 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.
Journalists of the future visited SANDF

By Capt Elaine van Staden, SO3 Ops Comm J Tac HQ WC

Journalism students from the University of Stellenbosch visited various military units in the Western Cape on 4 August 2005. This is an annual external communication project, facilitated by the Joint Tactical Headquarters Western Cape (J Tac HQ WC) and forms part of the social responsibility of the SANDF.

The group was welcomed by Cdr Maasdorp, Acting Base PRO Simon’s Town Naval Base, while PO Moraile presented a short briefing on the role of the SA Navy. Fully understanding the importance of a marine force, the group proceeded with a trip on board a mine hunter, which they greatly enjoyed. After visiting the new corvettes and a short lunch break, the group took off for Ysterplaat Air Force Base. At Ysterplaat various other military briefings, including the role of the SA Air Force and J Tac HQ WC, were presented to these future journalists. The day ended with an exciting Dakota flight followed by a delicious supper at the ‘Ysterplaat Officers’ Mess.

Because the media plays such an important role in shaping public perceptions and opinions it is vital that these role players of society understand the military structure and specifically the role of the SANDF to ensure that it is correctly communicated to the broader community. “Now I understand what you guys are doing during peacetime,” said Msimelelo Nzwabane, one of the students who will be appointed as a journalist at the City Press newspaper next year. The group was accompanied by Prof Leipoldt Scholtz, Deputy Editor at Die Burger newspaper, and who also serves in the Reserve Force. His wife, Drs Ingrid Scholtz, lectures in cultural literacy at the University of Stellenbosch.

Ilungu lesibini lamabhinqa asebenza kuMkhosi waManzi, ukulawula inqanawa

Inqaku ne foto ngu Bianca du Plessis, osebenza e Navy News


Umphathi wamajoni ohambayo, u-Lieutenant Andrew Mike Pieterse (oyokudibana nesiqendu soMkhosi waseMzantsi Afrika wokwetiso weZimbabwe ezimanyenyo (UN) e Burundi), unikezele ngentambo zokulawula inqanawa esetyenziselwa uku-gada kufutshane nonxweme ekuthiwa yi-SAS TERN, ku-Sub Lieutenant Green e-Sierra Wall, kwidokisi lembali leenqanawe elwamashumi amabini anesithoba kweyoMsintsi kumnyaka wamawaka amabini anesihlanu.
Dare to Cross the Rubicon with Love

By Cpln T.J. Mara, SA National War College

Life has to do with the crossing of diverse barriers. Stress, tension and anxiety are among some of the challenges that face any individual who dares to cross the barrier. Jesus taught, by word and deed, the importance and value of reaching out through love to the needy and outcasts.

Scriptural Reading: Mark 4:35 (see also Mark 5)

That day when evening came, Jesus said to His disciples, “Let us go over to the other side”.

The need on the other side

Why was Jesus so keen to go across the lake to the land of Gerasene? When the evening came most people prepare themselves to go home, but Jesus wanted to cross over to the other side. He left behind the crowd of people that still wanted to listen to His teachings. His love and compassion could not allow Him to spend one more day without making an effort to reach out to the desperate on the other side of the lake.

The challenges when crossing barriers

When Jesus had set His mind to crossing the lake in order to help the Gerasene man, unexpected challenges appeared. A furious squall came up and the waves were beating against the boat and it was nearly swamped. As if the challenge of nature was not enough, His disciples became doubtful and lost their faith when they saw the wind and the waves. But the Lord was not going to let anything or anyone stand in His way, which was to go across the lake to liberate a desperate man. He went to great lengths to reach the other side to help those in need. This is also a lesson for us. When you cross the barrier with good intentions and a sense of mission, expect to meet with some opposition or hindrances. Evil forces will always try to prevent us from helping the poor and the needy. That is exactly what happened to Jesus in this situation.

Jesus’ love freed the man

In Mark chapter five we read about the man who was the object of Jesus’ love and compassion. The background of this man was sad and dehumanising. He is described as a man who lived among the tombs. He wore chains and irons that people used to tie him while trying to tame him. He was straining his vocal cords in crying out aloud in the surrounding hills. He often cut himself with stones. No wonder his family and friends had given up on him. He was no longer welcome in the society. The only place that welcomed him was the cemetery.

However, the situation of this man did not stop Jesus from reaching out to him. Jesus dealt with all hindrances to come to him and to free the Gerasene man from his spiritual oppression. One would expect that after this man was helped society would be grateful to Jesus. It is, however, shocking to read that the people chased the Lord out of their area. As stated above, if you reach across with love to help a person in dire need you will sometimes be met with opposition.

DOD members cross the Rubicon of Love

It is a challenge for members of the DOD to adopt the attitude of Jesus of crossing the barriers to show love and empathy to the people in need. Let us dare to cross the Rubicon to help people infected and affected with the HIV/Aids pandemic. Let love and compassion move us to become our brothers’ and sisters’ keeper. Let us become good Samaritans to our neighbours who are wounded on the way-side of life. Let us stop and dress up their emotional, psychological and spiritual wounds. If we go over on the other side with the aim of building human bridges, our rainbow nation will prosper.

God’s sufficient grace in crossing

Remember, it is only those who are selfless who cross the barriers to help others in desperate situations. True love is not selfish but selfless. It compels people to reach out to others on the other side of life. Dare to cross the Rubicon and see whether God’s grace is sufficient for you.
Applications are invited for PILOT and NAVIGATOR Training in the SA Air Force for Matriculants and/or Grade 12 qualified persons with the following minimum requirements:

- Must be a SA Citizen
- Must be between 18 yrs and 24 yrs (maximum age 26 yrs, if graduate)
- Must obtain Grade 12 Maths and Physical Science [HG (D) or SG (C) or N4 with 60% and N5, N6 & 1st year University/Technikon with 50% or higher] and English (pass).
- Must be medical fit as required for Pilot/Navigator training in the SA Air Force
- Must have 6/6 vision
- Must not have any criminal record

Applicants need to submit a cover letter, CV, copy of ID, statement of symbols and the coupon to the address below:

**ENQUIRY COUPON**

Full Name: .................................................................
Postal Address: ..........................................................
Postal Code: ..............
Race: ....................... Gender: ..........................
Name of Parent/Legal Guardian: ..................................
Contact Telephone No: ..............................................

**Selection Process**

Applicants who have passed the paper selection will be informed by a letter to participate in the selection process that will take place in February/March 2006. The selection process will include interviews, psychological and psychomotor assessments over a period of approximately 12 days.

**Department of Defence**
**Human Resource Support Centre**
(Directorate Personnel Acquisition)
Private Bag X994
Pretoria, 0001

**Enquiries:** Tel: 012-339 5772/5769 / 5762
Fax: 012-339 5722

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Applicants will be required to fulfill contractual obligations on successful completion of the Pilot and Navigator Course.
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