



the sandf

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



INTRODUCING THE DIRECTOR ARMY RESERVES

Brig Gen Gerhard Kamffer was appointed as Director Army Reserves with effect from 1 August 2013 after the retirement of Maj Gen Keith Mokoape. Brig Gen Kamffer has a long and illustrious career as a Reserve officer serving for more than 40 years in the SA Army.

He was commissioned during his national service in 1973 and served as a platoon commander with 4th SAI Bn in Middelburg. He then obtained a BA Hons degree from the University of Potchefstroom and started farming on the family farm near Balfour in Mpumalanga in 1977 after his father passed away unexpectedly. He farmed with maize and cattle for a period of 24 years. He then followed in the footsteps of his grandfather and became the Officer Commanding of Heidelberg Commando for a period of 9 years. In 1998 he was appointed as the SSO Commandos in Army HQ and was promoted to the substantive rank of Colonel. In 2000 he hired a manager to farm for him while successfully completing the Senior Command and Staff Duties course at the SA Army College. He was promoted to the Rank of Brigadier General in 2005 and in 2006, he successfully completed the Executive National Security Programme at the South African National Defence College.

He was appointed as the Project Officer for Project Phoenix in 2003 for the rejuvenation and transformation of the Army Reserves. He was also recently tasked by C SANDF to devise a plan whereby the SANDF can make a contribution the developmental agenda of government as well as rural development. In this regard a pilot project will be embarked upon in the North West Province under his guidance.

In 1998 he obtained his doctorate from Potchefstroom University in military history. His love for military history also inspired him to do the background research for the recently announced "Name Review Process" in the SA Army Reserves.

He has been awarded, amongst others, the following medals: Southern Cross Medal, Military Merit Medal and the De Wet Decoration.

He has been married to Ina for the past 37 years and they have three sons Hendrik, Emile and Gerhard.