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Department:
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SOUTH AFRICAN NATIONAL DEFENCE FORCE RESERVE PARTICIPATION IN THE RAND SHOW 2015 AT NASREC SHOW GROUNDS

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Photographs by: SANDF Chaplain Services

What would Easter be without the Rand Show? NASREC Show Grounds were once again the place to be in Gauteng between 3 and 12 April 2015 with holiday makers from other provinces joining in the fun as well. This year's edition was special as it marked the event's 121st year.

As has been the case over the years, the Rand Show was hosted in partnership with the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) and this year's installment of the fun-filled annual event did not disappoint as it was action-packed with a variety of entertainment for the whole family.

The office of the Chief Defence Reserves, Defence Reserves Provincial Office Gauteng with representatives of Reserves from the Arms of Services took part as exhibitors promoting the Reserve Force System at its best. The aim of Reserve stall was to market the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) Reserve Force and create awareness amongst the public and captains of industry, thus enhancing the corporate image of the Reserves, focusing on the achievements of the Reserves and participation during capability demonstrations by the Reserve Force Units.

This ten day edutainment show was officially opened on the 03rd of April by the Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Mr Erk Maphatsoe. In his opening address the Minister said "It is vital for the Department of Defence to participate in this exhibition because we value our relations with the Rand Show, which is a platform that has a

massive audience that allows us to share with you, the critical role played by your Defence Force in making sure that you are and feel safe in your own country. By exposing our capabilities to you, we are exposing various opportunities that are available in the Defence Force, for those who may want to join the SANDF, in particular the young.”

After the official opening, the Deputy Minister paid a visit to all SANDF exhibition stalls and static displays to congratulate the SANDF members for their good work and to boost their morale. He spent seven minutes at the colourful and attractive Reserve Force stall and was warmly welcomed by Brigadier General Susan Debbie Molefe, Director Defence Reserves, Colonel Shuping Motswadira, Senior Staff Officer Defence Reserves Corporate Communications and Lieutenant Colonel Danny Shibambo, Staff Officer Grade 1 from the Defence Reserves Provincial Office Gauteng who presented the role and responsibilities of the Defence Reserves Division and its endeavors at the Rand Show. The Reserve stall was not only graced by the presence of the Deputy Minister but also with members from Military Command Council such as Acting Chief SANDF, Lieutenant General Bongani Mbatha (Chief of Logistics), Lieutenant General Norman Yengeni, Chief Human Resources, Surgeon General, Lieutenant General Aubrey Sedibe and Chief SA Navy, Rear Admiral Mosuwa Samuel Hlongwane.

Brigadier General Debbie Molefe had the opportunity to present the CEO of the Expo Center, Mr Craig Newman, with a Reserve Force framed shield as a token of appreciation thanking him for yet another successful show.

13 Combat Ready Provost Reserve Company, 6 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Regiment Oos Transvaal (from SA Army Air Defence Artillery Formation - APEX Base in Brackpan - Gauteng), Swartkop Museum Reserve Pilots and 11 Field Postal Unit from SA Army Signal Formation are the five Reserve Force units that participated in this year's show.

Twenty four Reserve Force members from 6 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment took part in a four day action packed capability demonstration programme showcasing the Defence Artillery Gun Run Competition using the GA 6 23mm Gun. These capability demonstrations were aimed at stimulating real-time manoeuvres used in real battle situations. Other activities included precision drills from SA Army Infantry School and SA Navy, and scenario demonstrations including two fly pasts by a SA Air Force Gripen.

Hundreds of people visited the Defence Reserves stall and many of them were interested in joining the Reserve Force. Members of the Force also used the opportunity to enquire and follow up on the articles that they read in the Volunteer Magazine about the SANDF Trust Fund which aims to educate the children of members in cases death and injuries that might leave them unable to serve the force.

All things considered, the 2015 Rand Show was a huge success - all the hard work by the members of the SANDF together with Rand Show coordinators was very beneficial to both the SANDF and the visitors who came to the SANDF display stalls and during demonstrations capabilities in the arena. Well done!



Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Mr Erk Maphatsoe during his address at the ceremonial opening of the 2015 Rand Show.



Reserve Force members from 6 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment took part in a four day action packed capability demonstration programme showcasing the Defence Artillery Gun Run Competition using the GA 6 23mm Gun.



L/Bdr Tsele Taunyana from 6 Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment showcasing the 35MM MK V Ammunition to one of a family coming all the way from Sebokeng, Vaal, Gauteng.



Lieutenant General Bongani Mbatha (Chief of Logistics) presenting a certificate of participation to Colonel Shuping Motswadira, SSO Corporate Communications Defence Reserves on behalf of Chief of the South African National Defence Force.



Defence Reserves Division communicators WO2 Mcedisi Dyasi, Sgt Vicky Digashu, Lt Col Danny Shibambo and Col Shuping Motswasira appreciating the certificate after it was presented to the Division



Lieutenant General Norman Yengeni, Chief Human Resources with his delegation spent some time at the SANDF Reserves' stall.



Director Defence Reserves, Brigadier General Debbie Molefe, presenting a token of partnership to the Chief Executive Officer of the Johannesburg Expo Centre, Mr Graig Newman.



Lieutenant Colonel Danny Shibambo, Staff Officer Grade 1 Defence Reserves Provincial Office Gauteng and Director Defence Reserves Brigadier General Debbie Molefe presenting the role and responsibilities of the Defence Reserves Division and its endeavors at the Rand Show to Director Defence Corporate Communication, Brigadier General Xolani Mabanga, Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Mr Erk Maphatsoe and Lieutenant General Bongani Mbatha (Chief of Logistics), acting Chief SANDF.



Councillor in the City of Joburg Willie van der Schyf, also chairman of the Defence Provincial Liaison Council Gauteng (DPLC) visited the Reserve Stall and was very impressed with the communicators' enthusiastic efforts to market the DPLCs.