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Department:
Defence
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South African National Defence Force presented the Johannesburg Military Tattoo

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The South African National Defence Force in partnership with the City of Johannesburg presented the 2016 Johannesburg Military Tattoo at the Apartheid Museum at Gold Reef City from 7 to 10 of September 2016.

The aim of this majestic military spectacle was to, among others, provide an enhanced showcase for local talent that reflected a true South African character. The idea was to take the Tattoo to the people and to ensure easy access by the general public throughout all the various parts of Johannesburg.

Chief SANDF approved the participation as a joint venture between the SANDF and the City of Johannesburg which done to enforce the good relations between the SANDF, the City of Johannesburg and its citizens. The Tattoo was organised and presented by the SA Army.

Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Cllr Herman Mashaba, SAMHS Chief Director Force Support, Maj Gen Lesley Charles Ford, and Chief Defence Reserves, Maj Gen Roy Andersen, were some of the attendees on Wednesday the 07th of September during the official opening of event.

The office of the Chief Defence Reserves, together with Provincial Office Gauteng South utilised the Johannesburg Military Tattoo as a platform to promote the concept of the Reserve Force System at its best and also to create awareness amongst the public and captains of industry, thus enhancing the corporate image of the Reserves and focusing on their achievements.

A throng of 5000 people made their way to the Tattoo which proved to be a hit among the families of City of Johannesburg, of all ages.

The Tattoo opened with a massed band playing the South African National Anthem which was led by Lt Col Gerald Seekola. All four Arms of Service were represented along with civilian acts. Entertainment of the highest order included a mock attack, massed bands displays (with the firing of Artillery G1 guns), cultural acts and dance acts. The finale saw all the bands and all participants involved take to the arena in a

display of colour, pomp and music. The spotlight dimmed to the Lone Piper playing the lament on top of the stage followed by a colourful fireworks display, and that marked the end of a successful Johannesburg tattoo.

This first instalment of this majestic event did not disappoint as the performers gave their brilliant performances, day-in day-out, ranging from musical to military demonstrations. The relationship between the two organisations confirms the link between the SANDF as a national asset of South Africa in general and the citizens of Johannesburg in particular. It is also envisaged that this would not be a once off event, but an event that may become institutionalised in future years. We just cannot wait for another hit-show next year.



Massed Pipes & Drums performing together with Highland Dancers, which was much to the delight of the spectators.



Executive Mayor of the City of Johannesburg, Cllr Mashaba with Maj Gen Ford, excited about the event.



Gamboots dancers in action.



Cultural “Tshikona” dance from the members of 15 SA Infantry Battalion.



Members from 21SA Infantry Battalion with the Mamba IPV carrier during the mock attack demonstrations.



The final muster of all participants in the Johannesburg Military Tattoo 2016.



Maj Gen Andersen interviewed by Ms Julie Scheier of CCTV News channel 409 on DSTV.



Maj Gen Andersen, receiving a token of appreciation for attending from Maj Gen Ford.



Maj Gen L.C. Nobanda, GOC SA Army Support Formation with Brig Gen S.D. Molefe, Director Defence Reserves enjoying the show on a Friday night.