



the sandf

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: 21 November 2012

EMBARGO: None

SUBJECT: SECURITY SITUATION IN THE EASTERN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)

The security situation in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo is tense following the clashes between government forces and the M23. According to reports the M23 took over Goma and pushed back government forces. The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) contingent which is deployed under the command of MONUSCO, is not involved in the skirmishes between M23 and government forces.

The SANDF would like to dismiss with contempt any information which suggests that our members have been surrounded by M23 as reported in certain media. The Military Command would like to assure all South Africans, members of the SANDF and their families that SANDF members are not in danger as media reports allege.

We take cognisance of the tense security situation in the Eastern DRC and that we have contingency plans for any eventuality.

Ends.

Issued by: Defence Corporate Communication
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