



**the sandf**

Department:  
Defence  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

Department of Defence  
(Defence Corporate  
Communication)  
Private Bag X161  
Pretoria  
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**Embargo:** For release on 12 OCTOBER 2012: 08:00

**Subject:** SANDF PARTICIPATION IN THE 70<sup>TH</sup> COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF EL ALAMEIN IN EGYPT

On Friday, 12 October 2012, members of the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) will depart for Egypt to pay tribute to the South Africans who had lost their lives during the Battle of El Alamein.

The World War 2 (WWII) Battle of El Alamein, which took place over the period 23 October to 04 November 1942, was a turning point in the war against the Nazi forces in Africa. The victory at El Alamein by the Allied Forces, which included thousands of South Africans from all walks of life, was the beginning of the end of the fascist Nazi programme of world domination.

The eventual defeat in 1945 of the Nazis led, amongst others to the majority of the European colonies in Africa, Asia, the Middle East and South America, gaining their independence in the years following the war.

In recognition of the supreme sacrifice made by thousands of South African compatriots at the Battle of El Alamein, the SANDF will participate in the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Battle of El Alamein in collaboration with the Department of Military Veterans (DMV) and other organisations such as the Reserve Force Council Association (RFCA). The casualties during this battle were fallen heroes, who fought against a threat to global freedom and democracy. They made the ultimate sacrifice for the greater good of mankind.

**Ends**

**Issued by:** Defence Corporate Communication  
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