



**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS**  
**REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**

**Media Release**

**23 July 2013**

**DEPUTY MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS ATTENDS SAS SALDANHA PASSING OUT PARADE**

The Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans will officiate and deliver an address at the passing out parade that marks the end of basic military training for 491 members on Thursday 25 July 2013 at 10h00.

The trainees form part of the Military Skills Development System (MSDS) that aimed at recruiting young people into the military as part of rejuvenating its capabilities.

Since their arrival at SAS SALDANHA the learners were involved in the following community projects:

- A Gun-Run and Precision drill squad entertained audiences at the West Coast Freedom day celebration which was held at the Vredenburg Sportsfield on 27 April 2013.
- From 27 – 28 June 2013 various learners planted a vegetable garden and did maintenance (painting and cleaning) at Siyabonga (Old age home), Huis Hadasa (Children Care Center), Huis Isabella (Disability Center) and Sisonke (Disability Center).
- In support of Mandela month the group had a clean-up project at the Diazville civic centre. They took a designated area of barren land and transformed it into a volley ball court where local children from the Saldanha Bay area can play volley ball after school.

Outstanding performers during the training period will be conferred with awards in the following categories:

- **Best Mess-Deck:** Manthantisi Division (Females) Representative: Seaman M.R. Matthei
- **Best Esprit De Corps:** Mendi Division Representative: Seaman R. Oliver
- **Best Division in Sport:** Spioenkop Division Representative: Seaman P.L. Zietsman
- **Best Learner in Seamanship:** Seaman F.F. Petersen (Spioenkop Division)
- **Stickman (Neatest Sailor):** Seaman M.T. Motileng (Isandlwana Division)
- **Fittest Female on course:** Seaman J.T. Khalo (Mendi Division)
- **Fittest Male on course:** Seaman M.P. Gumede (Spioenkop Division)
- **Best Academic Sailor:** Seaman K. Naidoo (Isandlwana Division)
- **Admiral Mudimu Trophy for Leadership:** Seaman S. Masana (Mendi Division)
- **Best overall Instructor 1301:** Petty Officer A. Sengo
- **Best Support Department:** Logistics Department (Main Store Section)

Members of the Media are invited to attend this parade ceremony. One-on-one interviews will be granted with the Deputy Minister of Defence during the break after the passing out parade and prize giving. Gates will open at 08:00.

**Ends**

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