



the sandf

Department:
Defence
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MEDIA STATEMENT

DATE: 21 July 2015

EMBARGO: Immediate release

SUBJECT: A shooting incident near the Northern Kwa-Zulu Natal border

The South African National Defence Force (SANDF) confirms that its members who are deployed in RSA – Mozambique borderline near gate 6 fired shots at the vehicle which happened to belong to Netstar tracking company. The incident happened at about 21:30 on 20 July 2015.

The SANDF members heard sound of a truck followed by a bakkie speeding towards the border and subsequently crossing the borderline to Mozambique. The SANDF members then opened fire to the bakkie and the occupants of the bakkie ran away abandoning the bakkie in Mozambique. Whilst on the scene, few minutes later, SANDF members noticed two (2) vehicles in a high speed approaching their position from the northern part of KZN. In an attempt to stop the vehicle, SANDF members used a torch signalling the vehicles to stop, but the vehicle did not stop forcing the SANDF members to open fire to the front vehicle causing the vehicle to stop due to deflated tyre. The vehicles were later identified to be belonging to Netstar and SAPS. No signal or form of identity on the vehicles was visible to the SANDF members at the time of shooting. Both vehicles were stopped and the occupants of the two vehicles were apprehended by the Military Police.

The apprehended members were later taken to Manguzi SAPS station where they were positively identified as members of the Netstar tracking company and SAPS. It was later established that the Netstar and SAPS members were chasing the truck and a bakkie.

Both SAPS and Netstar members did not follow due protocol of informing the SANDF commander that they were chasing a suspected vehicle.

The SANDF also wants to confirm that nobody was harmed or injured in the incident.

The Board of Inquiry has been convened to determine the circumstances surrounding this incident.

Ends.

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