



## MINISTRY OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS

Republic of South Africa

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### MEDIA ADVISORY

Date: 10 September 2015

Embargo: None

**SUBJECT: MINISTER NOSIVIWE MAPISA-NQAKULA JOINS THE SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION TO THE UNVEILING OF THE MATOLA RAID MONUMENT AND THE INTERPRETATIVE CENTRE IN MAPUTO, MOZAMBIQUE**

On Thursday, 10 September, the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Hon Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula - MP, will travel to Mozambique where she will participate in the unveiling of the Matola Raid Monument and the Interpretative Centre.

The monument will not only serve as a reminder of the brutal legacy of apartheid, but will pay tribute to those who lost their lives during a raid by the erstwhile South African Defence Force (SADF) on 30-31 January 1981.

On that fateful day in 1981, 13 members of Umkhonto We Sizwe (the armed wing of the African National Congress) and one Mozambican national were ambushed and killed by members of the SADF.

In an effort to commemorate the 13 gallant individuals who fought for a free and democratic South Africa, including the many who lost lives during the liberation struggle, the South African government deemed it necessary to erect a memorial site in their honour.

"They were killed for the realisation of the free South Africa we have today. It is people like them whose determination and commitment until the end ensured everyone in South Africa enjoys equal rights and freedom," said Minister Mapisa-Nqakula.

The Matola Raid Monument and the Interpretative Centre will be unveiled in Maputo, Mozambique on Friday, 11 September 2015.

**ENDS.**

**Issued by: Ministry of Defence and Military Veterans**

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