



the sandf

Department:  
Defence  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

## MEDIA INVITATION

**Date:** 31 March 2017

**Embargo:** None

**Subject: MEDIA VISIT TO 28 SQUADRON AT AIR FORCE BASE WATERKLOOF  
03 APRIL 2017**

The South African Air Force (SAAF) is inviting members of the media to Air Force Base Waterkloof in Pretoria to celebrate the achievements and milestones which 28 Squadron has achieved over the years. The visit is scheduled to commence at 10:00 for 10:30 on Monday 03 April 2017.

28 Squadron has achieved tremendous success in the implementation of transformation. The squadron has overall 17 pilots of which eight are Africans and two coloureds. Most recently, the squadron celebrated the achievement of having the first black female qualify as a Commander of C130 Hercules Aircraft.

The Squadron has been actively involved in United Nations and African Union peacekeeping missions in various countries such as Burundi, Sudan, Central African Republic and Democratic Republic of Congo.

Some of the highlights of 28 Squadron includes the flying of the mortal remains of the late President Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela to his ancestral home in the Eastern Cape and undertook numerous flights in support of Operation Uxolo. It also provided the ceremonial flag which was used to drape the former president's casket on the journey from Houghton to the mortuary in Pretoria.

You are cordially invited to send a journalist and / or a photographer to attend and give coverage to the media visit at Air Force Base Waterkloof. Journalists assigned to cover this visit should RSVP as stated below, **on 31 March 2017 no later than 15:00**

**ENDS.**

**Issued by:** South African Air Force

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