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AFRICAN ARMED FORCES

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contents

04	EDITORIAL
05	SITREP
11	INDUSTRY NEWS
13	FEATURE ARTICLES INSIDE EUROSATORY 2012 RAYTHEON TEST FIRES NEW 155MM PROJECTILE
20	GLOBAL ISSUES THE HUNT FOR JOSEPH KONY ITURI PERSPECTIVE: MONUSCO IN THE DRC SECURITY CHALLENGES CONFRONTING SADC'S NEW MINERAL BONANZA
30	PROFILES AND APPOINTMENTS MINISTER OF DEFENCE: NOSIVIWE NOLUTHANDO MAPISA-NQAKULA APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHIEF OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE: MAJOR GENERAL FABIAN ZIMPANDE MSIMANG
32	BOOK REVIEWS THE GUN – THE STORY OF THE AK-47 DINGO FIRESTORM: THE GREATEST BATTLE OF THE RHODESIAN BUSH WAR
36	AFRICA FLASHPOINTS LIBYA, NIGERIA, SUDAN
37	BRIEFING ROOM
38	LETTERS

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COVER IMAGE: MONUSCO Blue Helmets return from a patrol in Northeastern DRC. By Richard Stupart



editorial

The South African defence industry for a long time has followed a long road in its efforts to maintain and develop a national asset but despite all efforts little has been achieved. It is now no longer what it was or could have been.

The recently released consultative draft of the Defence Review proposes changes that obviously intend to address any short comings that existed in the past and that might hamper efficient future marketing and also indicate a close involvement in the industry by the National Defence Force.

The ministerial establishment of the National Defence Industry Council (SADIC), a structure chaired either by the minister or secretary of defence to assist and advise the defence industry of the correct routes to follow is an important step for both co-operational and African and international marketing. The introduction of this SADIC will provide direct access to top levels and will remove any doubts that may exist in respect of lack of co-operation that the industry may have experienced in the past.

In addition, the SADIC will help to ensure that strategic independence will in future be retained as far as a supporting defence industry for the South African National Defence Force is concerned.

As South Africa's major defence industry, a recent statement from Denel shows that long needed changes can be expected in their operating procedures, in line with those suggested in the defence review.

The review provides a formula for the industry to follow and incorporates other departments that are essential to the success of the industry, support that in the past could have been greater and was indeed needed.

MISSION

The AAFJ is committed to providing its readership a quality service in order to stimulate and improve the defence debate in Africa.

VISION:

To provide African military professionals a public platform to discuss issues of mutual interest.

OBJECTIVES:

- Champion the role of professional militaries within the context of the African Union in securing the peace and security required for human and economic development.
- Advocate appropriate civil-military relations, especially non-partisan parliamentary oversight.
- Advance confidence and trust among African armed forces and military professionals.
- Encourage the establishment of Reserve Officers' Associations and reserve components within armed forces.
- Enhance and improve the readership's level of professional military education.
- Promote and market the indigenous defence industry.

ADVISORY PANEL

Dr Martin Rupiye - Executive Director of The African Public Policy & Research Institute based in Pretoria.

Prof Sibusiso Vil-Nkomo - Dean and Professor - Faculty of Economic and Management Sciences, University of Pretoria

Maj Gen Keith Mokoape - General Manager: SA Army Foundation, Chief of SA Army Reserve

Brig Gen Pieter Vosloo - Former SA Army Chief of Staff Infantry Formation and former Deputy Chief Director SA Army Force Structure.

Prof Garth Shelton - Associate Professor of International Relations, Wits University

SITREP

A summary of defence reports



The new Defence Works Formation flags are unfurled during the parade.

SANDF DEFENCE WORKS FORMATION RELAUNCHES ITSELF

The Defence Works Formation held a flag hoisting ceremony and parade on 1 June. The new flags were presented by Lt Gen JT Nkonyane (GOC Support and Logistics) and overseen by acting GOC of Defence Works Brig Gen DJ Masters.

The Defence Works Formation, established in April 2011, is tasked with the maintenance, construction, management and procurement of all Department of Defence assets. The task is a monumental one, with considerable challenges in maintaining the large and spread out DOD facilities to be overcome.

The flag hoisting parade was attended by members of Defence Works



Lt Gen Nkonyane and Brig Gen Masters cut the ceremony's cake.

Formation from all of its regional headquarters.

MILITIA DISRUPTED TRIPOLI AIRPORT, GROUNDING FLIGHTS

On Monday 4 June Tripoli International Airport was seized by ex-rebel militia, after their leader had been arrested. Attempts to negotiate a resolution were unsuccessful, although the militia was ultimately apprehended without prolonged fighting. A number were disarmed by the forces.

"The National Transitional Council is facing massive challenges in reintegrating different factions of the former-rebel forces into a peaceful society."

Flights were not expected to resume for at least 24 hours because of the damage caused to the airport's infrastructure. The raid was carried out by gunmen who fired into the air and slightly wounded an airport employee, causing panic among travelers, according to the official LANA news agency.

The prime motive behind the militia's seizure of the airport was in seeking an explanation for the arrest and

whereabouts of their leader, Abu Ajila al-Habshi. It is important to note that there was little to no political objective to the attack, and does not necessarily indicate any larger trend of anti-government activity.

Tripoli's security commission, which answers to the interior ministry, said it had nothing to do with "the disappearance and abduction of Colonel Abu Ajila al-Habshi" and that it was still tracking those responsible.

The ruling National Transitional Council (NTC) had authorised the interior and defence ministries, who oversee a broad constellation of brigades made up of former rebels, to "use all means necessary, including force," to retake the airport.

The National Transitional Council is facing massive challenges in reintegrating different factions of the former-rebel forces into a peaceful society. The Tripoli airport raid is a case in point of the difficulties which they face.

In January this year NTC forces had to deploy to the town of Bani Walid to quell a skirmish that had begun between former loyalists and current NTC militia. Forces were quickly deployed and calm restored without further clashes. Although flashpoints in the aftermath of Qaddafi's ousting still occurs, the NTC's security services have been effective at ensuring they do not erupt into widespread unrest.

Such militias secured many strategic sites in Libya after they defeated Qaddafi loyalists backed by NATO-led air strikes during last year's Arab Spring-inspired revolution.

With the attack on Tripoli Airport occurring just weeks before elections are due to be held, the presence of armed former-rebels in strategic military sites remains a major problem.

ASSEGAIS, DRUMS & DRAGOONS LAUNCHED IN GAUTENG, SOUTH AFRICA



Author Willem Steenkamp explains some of the history detailed in his book.



The books displayed during the launch

The South African Infantry Association launched the first in a series of books by Willem Steenkamp. Entitled *Assegais, Drums & Dragoons*, the book was commissioned by the association and begins a historical examination of the Infantry of South Africa.

The launch took place in Eastern Pretoria on the 6th of June, and copies went up for a limited edition release. Books can be purchased from www.exclusivebooks.co.za

ANGOLAN WITHDRAWAL FROM GUINEA BISSAU COMPLETED

By June 10, two Ilyushin IL 76 Candid (one on lease) and one Boeing 737 had completed transporting the last elements and equipment of the Missang Angolan defense cooperation mission in Bissau. The remaining unit was made of 96 "red berets", an incomplete company from the Special Forces brigade HQ at Cabo Ledo, in the northwest Angolan coast. Under the command of Angola's Lt. General Gildo dos Santos, the Angolan withdrawal started on 6 June, and the Luanda military were observed from shore by Guinean marines, trained by Portugal. As a key member of the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries CPLP), Portugal had suspended its military

protocols and large defense support programmes with Guinea Bissau, as a sign of protest against the coup.

The total Angolan contingent withdrawn numbered some 249 military and police personnel. Its base in Bissau, located in the ex-Palace Hotel, will now house the Angolan mission to Guinea now downgraded to charge d'affaires status after the earlier withdrawal of the Angolan ambassador.

"The withdrawal of the Angolan troops will help de-escalate tensions between the soldiers and the people, who did not view the Angolan troops favourably."

Missang was generally popular in Bissau, where it helped build infrastructure and created jobs in supporting structures. Angola spent nearly US\$25 million in supporting



A FAA BMP-2 being loaded in Bissau

modernization projects in the military and policing area, but was seen by certain Guinean military chiefs as a "threat" to their own existence.

THE NEW PIRACY CHALLENGE TO NIGERIA

The seriousness of the piracy situation in the Gulf of Guinea was discussed recently at a regional Libreville meeting in Gabon, where increased cooperation and calls for international help (from AFRICOM amongst others), were made. A decision was taken to increase joint patrols by the smaller regional navies. Nigeria is already working with Benin (Task Group 11.1), while Cameroon cooperates with Equatorial Guinea and Gabon. Back in February, Nigeria led the 12 nation (including US and EU) Obangame Express exercise (off Malabar), to assist in reinforcing multi-task capabilities of limited defense resources available in the region.

Nigeria's Navy Chief, Vice Admiral Sa'ad Ibrahim, also recently addressed the problem at a key speech at a seminar in Abuja on 24 May during Navy Week. He recognized the state of disrepair of the national fleet, its

obsolescence, lack of spares and deficient infrastructure, due to many causes, including underfunding resulting from poor strategic choices. Responding to these challenges, the Nigerian navy is substantially increasing its fleet of FPB's, with 12 new Manta MK II ASD (Singapore), Shaldag (Israel) and OCEA FPB 98 MKI (France) units, two helicopter carrying 1800 ton OPV's (PRC and Chinese-Nigerian models, with contracts signed by April 2012), the locally-made and designed NNS Andoni (a revamped River Town class, serving also as a test bed for new types), and new special purpose launches and tactical insertion crafts for the elite SBS unit.

"Nigeria has also embarked on an ambitious project for riverine military operations, acquiring up to 200 small craft (mostly US origin),..."

Nigeria has also embarked on an ambitious project for riverine military operations, acquiring up to 200 small craft (mostly US origin), and has been modernizing and maintaining its main, and more modern, aero naval assets including 1 MEKO 360 (F89 Aradu) frigate, two Vosper MK9 corvettes, 4 Augusta A109 helicopters and some Aerostar UAV's.

The presidency and the joint chiefs of staff have also been insisting in increasing cooperation with Air Force dedicated assets, including two new ATR 42 Maritime patrol planes (Franco-Italian), and its almost 100

helicopters from multiple sources, including Russian built Mil-35 attack types (though the chopper force is said to be only 30-40% serviceable). A new Cessna Citation surveillance plane, from the National Customs Service, is also now training alongside the armed forces in anti-piracy operations.

SÃO TOMÉ AND AFRICOM

The Portuguese speaking archipelago nation of São Tomé and Príncipe (STP) is also a key placement for control of operations in the Gulf of Guinea. Now entering the first phases of oil exploration, STP may add economic resources protection to other security needs. These and other matters were discussed between AFRICOM head, General Carter Hamm, and STP President Pinto da Costa, in mid May 2012, when the US officer (again) visited the city of São Tomé, the nation's capital.

Hamm dismissed rumors that he was looking for more bases for his command, but confirmed that he had strategic talks with STP's leaders, due to the country's location at the crossroads of several sea lanes of communication and close locality to several crisis areas. AFRICOM may install a node of its strategic military studies centre in STP, in order to create special brainstorming teams and permit pre-CI3 interfacing. The US also



STP's Archangel, delivered in 2010

supplied STP's almost non-existent Coastal Guard with a 14 meter long FPB (Archangel) and installed 3 radars for maritime detection, under the RMAC system. Additionally, STP sailors have been training on US vessels, like the USS Simpson.

Although the archipelago has been seen as very "westernized" in security terms, and has kept good relations with Taiwan, it recently announced a grant of US\$50 million from Iran.

CAPE VERDE RECONSIDERS ITS NAVAL NEEDS

The small Western Africa archipelago nation of Cape Verde, another ex-Portuguese overseas province, is also looking seriously at maritime security. One reason for this is its key location (it used to be a main base for anti-submarine patrol operations, used by US P3 Orion aircraft during the Cold War). In more recent times, the Coastal Guard, under Lt. Colonel António Duarte Monteiro, has been benefitting from strong cooperation with the Portuguese and US navies, including drills and marine infantry operations. It is now receiving the modern revolutionary "axe bow" Stanaxe 5009 Guardiã P511, a naval interceptor made in Holland, equipped with modern sensors, communication packs and an automatic light cannon. This is a small but useful addition to a minuscule fleet of 5 small FPB's and one large FPB, equipped with a helipad, the Vigilante – a revamped Kondor 1 series. The navy also has 1 modern Dornier MR plane, but suffers a lack of spares.

THE ECOWAS RESPONSE TO THE GUINEA BISSAU COUP

The response by ECOWAS on the illegal coup in Guinea Bissau which took place in April 2012, has been

criticised as "too soft" in some quarters. The military rebels managed to maintain and consolidate its power, even in the face of condemnation and sanctions from the UN, AU, and the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP). ECOWAS, decided to condemn the junta but at the same time recognised the new government on a de facto, "realistic" basis. In late May, it dispatched a multinational force which includes 600 military and police men from Nigeria, Burkina Faso, Senegal, Togo and the Ivory Coast. The main ECOWAS base is in Cumere, 35 kms from Bissau, under the command of Colonel Major Barro Gnibanga, a Burkina Faso officer. The

"Angolan military Intelligence (SIM) analysts continue to question why Angolan VIP protection guards alongside their Bissau police counterparts failed in their mission to protect ex-PM and leading voted candidate Carlos Gomes Júnior (now in exile in Portugal)."

ECOWAS contingent includes around 50 Nigerian policemen.

At the same time, the Angolan defense cooperation mission was repatriated, using one ship and four planes (eight flights in total) to transport some 250 men and heavy equipment back to Luanda (although some are now

stationed in neighboring Conakry). Angolan military Intelligence (SIM) analysts continue to question why Angolan VIP protection guards alongside their Bissau police counterparts failed in their mission to protect ex-PM and leading voted candidate Carlos Gomes Júnior (now in exile in Portugal). Júnior lived in front of the Angolan embassy in Bissau, and was reportedly protected by a mixed Guinean POP (Police) and Angolan FAA (Armed Forces) detail. Indications are that the Guinean-Angolan security detail only stopped and searched military marked vehicles, while the force which attacked the PM's home wore civilian clothes and used civilian vehicles. Other Angolan sources maintain that it was not the role of Angolan troops stationed there to replace the statutory duties of the Guinea police guarding the PM.

APPOINTMENTS AND/OR PROMOTIONS OF SENIOR OFFICERS IN THE SANDF

Approval has been granted for the appointments and/or promotions of the under mentioned officers with effect from 1 June 2012 or with effect from the first day of the month following the dates the officer reported to their new post, which ever date is the latest:

Brig Gen A.L. de Wit is appointed and promoted to the substantive rank of Maj Gen as Chief Director Human Resource Strategic Direction, Policy and Planning.

Col L.K. Mbatha is appointed and promoted to the substantive rank of Brig Gen as General Officer Commanding at the Military Academy. Col M.J. De Goede is appointed and promoted to the substantive rank of Brig Gen as Director Area Defence at SA Army Infantry Formation.

CLASHES IN PUNTLAND

Tensions are rising in northeast Somalia following clashes between Puntland forces, backed by security company Saracen International, and local militias loyal to Raas-Casayr state. Local sources reported that there is a growing build-up of arms and troops at Bargal town inside Barri region between rival regional administrations of Puntland and Raas-Casayr state in northeast Somalia.

Farah Mohamud Dooaha-Joog, the president of Raas-Casayr state, stated that his troops ward off an attack from Puntland army against the territories of Raas-Casayr state on 5 June, saying the intention of the attack was to 'intimidate the local people and loot the mineral resources', as he put it.

Puntland officials said they entered the area to fight the pirates at Bargaal town of Barri region, but not to attack Raas-Casayr state. Locals say there was a military movement that both sides continued in and around Bargaal town. *(Shabelle Media Network 6 June)*

US OFFERS REWARDS FOR AS LEADERS

For the first time, the Department's Rewards for Justice program is offering rewards for information on seven key leaders of the Somalia-based al-Shabaab terrorist organization, also known as Harakat Shabaab al-Mujahidin.

The US Department of State has authorized a reward of up to US\$7 million for information leading to the location of al-Shabaab founder Ahmed Abdi aw-Mohamed; up to US\$5 million each for information leading to the location of his associates Ibrahim Haji Jama, Fuad Mohamed Khalaf, Bashir Mohamed Mahamoud, and Mukhtar Robow; and up to US\$3 million each for information leading to the location of additional al-Shabaab leaders Zakariya Ismail Ahmed Hersi and Abdullahi Yare.

In February 2012, al-Shabaab's emir in Somalia, Ahmed Abdi aw-Mohamed, and al-Qaida's leader, Ayman al-Zawahiri, released a joint video to formally announce a merger of the two organizations.

The State Department stressed that the al-Shabaab organisation's terrorist activities pose a threat to the stability of East Africa and to the national security interests of the United States. The US Secretary of State named al-Shabaab a Foreign Terrorist Organisation under Section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act on February 26, 2008, and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist entity pursuant to Section 1(b) of Executive Order 13224 on February 29, 2008.

The seven individuals named above are key leaders of the al-Shabaab terrorist organisation. Aw-Mohamed, born July 10, 1977, in Hargeysa, is the operational commander of al-Shabaab in Somalia. Jama is a key leader from Somaliland who helped form the Harakat Shabaab al-Mujahidin movement and reportedly trained and fought in Afghanistan. Khalaf, a dual Somali and Swedish national, has raised funds for the organisation and helped direct attacks in Somalia. Mahamoud, believed to have been born between 1979 and 1982, is an al-Shabaab military commander and coordinator for al-Qaida operations in Somalia. Robow, born in 1969, has served as an al-Shabaab spokesperson and also has also served as the group's spiritual leader. Hersi acts as al-Shabaab's head of intelligence. Yare is the head of al-Shabaab's media operations, and is also deputy to Aw-Mohamed. *(US Dept of State 7 June)*

SECURITY FORCES IN MINING VENTURES

The security sector, particularly the army, is increasingly maneuvering into

the country's mining terrain, making footprints in the Marange diamond fields and right across the Great Dyke into remote areas. In Marange, the army, police, intelligence and prisons services have direct mining claims. Retired and also serving security personnel sit on the boards of various mining companies.

Security forces have mainly entered into partnerships with Chinese and Russian companies which bring in capital as well as expertise.

The Zimbabwe Defence Forces (ZDF), which brings together the army and the air force, is involved in a partnership with Chinese firm, Anjin, in mining diamonds in Marange, while the Zimbabwe National Army (ZNA) has embarked on a platinum mining project in Ngezi with another Chinese company, Sinodrill.

The ZDF is also heavily involved in joint ventures in the Chegutu-Selous area as well as in diamond mining and explorations of new gold deposits in Matabeleland North and South.

According to a February 2012 Global Witness report entitled 'Diamonds: A Good Deal for Zimbabwe', the presence of several serving security personnel on the boards of companies mining diamonds in Chiadzwa, presented opportunities for the diversion and abuse of funds. Anjin board members include Martin Rushwaya, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Defence, as well as Zimbabwe Republic Police commissioners, Oliver Chibage and Nonkosi Ncube. The principal officer and company secretary of Anjin, Charles Tarumbwa, and non-executive board members, Morris Masunungure and Romeo Daniel Mutsvunguma, all have links with the military.

(Zimbabwe Independent, 18 May)

LION EFFORT 2018 COULD BE IN SOUTH AFRICA

Exercise Lion Effort, the multi-national Gripen capability exercise generally held in Europe, could potentially be held and hosted by the South African Airforce in South Africa, in 2018. The exercise is held once every three years and involves/invites all nations currently flying the Gripen multirole fighter.

The announcement was made by SAAF Brigadier General Marthie Visser in an interview with DefenceWeb, where she was also quick to add that the exercise's 2018 location was not as yet confirmed. However, the prospect of hosting Lion Effort in 2018 would be an encouraging indication of the value which South African pilots have added in 2012's Lion Effort Exercise.

During the recent exercise held in Sweden, members of 2 Sqn and its support elements acquitted themselves very well in the several stage exercises held. In basic aerial combat, for example, SAAF pilots achieved a very high kill ratio.

According to DefenceWeb, the South African contingent consisted of 29 members from 2 Squadron and eleven support staff, who arrived in Sweden on March 25. As the SAAF's last four Gripens were held back in Sweden for the exercise, they were the first foreign element to arrive at Ronneby. Familiarisation flights started on March 28, although these did include visual identification (VID) exercises, 1 vs 1 and 2 vs 2 air-to-air engagements, and close air support (CAS) missions. The main combat portion of the exercise took place between April 1 and 4, in an operational area 70 by 200 nautical

miles in size and largely over the Baltic Sea. Two waves of Gripens launched every day, with Blue forces operating from the southwest against Red forces in the northeast. One of the sides would defend an area whilst the other would try and attack, before the sides switched roles and repeated the exercise.

Hosting Exercise Lion Effort in South Africa is beneficial for both European Gripen operators and South Africa, as the latter will enjoy the prestige and

conflict occurring throughout the country in the wake of the Libyan war.

Fighting had reportedly halted by 18 June 18h in the Nafusa Mountain Range, with Government forces responding quickly and restoring order to the region. The clashes pitted fighters from the town of Zintan, who played a significant role in ousting Gaddafi, against members of the El-Mashashia tribe, who chose not to join last year's rebellion, Reuters reports.

Resentment between the two groups spilled over into fighting in December 2011 and erupted again when a Zintan fighter was shot dead. Zintan's militias blamed the El-Mashashia tribe and retaliated, several members of the tribe said.

The Nafusa Mountain Range represented a major front in the Libyan War, with local tribal elders outright refusing monetary incentives by Gaddafi's forces to lay

down their arms. The war resulted in a series of gains and losses for both sides, until a Tunisian-supplied rebel force ultimately broke out of the region with aid from NATO air strikes.

Libya as a whole has deeply-rooted tribal factions which often oppose and clash with each other. However, the friction caused between urban and rural Libyans has also added a new layer into the post-conflict instability of the country. With large populations of armed rebels moving far from their tribal homelands, the potential for crises has been complicated on top of the inevitable post-war authority vacuum.

Libyan elections are set to be held on 7 July 2012, although it is possible this will be further delayed, at the risk of additional violence and protest.



The Gripen-exclusive exercise could well be hosted in South Africa in 2018, placing the spotlight firmly on the SAAF and its capabilities.

respect in its ability to command and coordinate such an exercise, while the former member nations are able to gain valuable experience in non-temperate flight climate and conditions, which can be valuable in understanding the Gripen operating context in warmer climates in which they could potentially be deployed in military or humanitarian interventions. Even the consideration of South Africa for hosting this event is remarkable, and bodes well for the SAAF, who have just ushered in new leadership.

FURTHER CONFLICTS IN LIBYA ERUPT

A large outbreak of violence in Western Libya erupted on 11 June, resulting in over 100 deaths. The recent violence is another bullet point in the ongoing

INDUSTRY NEWS

Developments in the sector

AFRICAN INDUSTRY NEWS

LAND FORCES AFRICA HELD IN GAUTENG, SOUTH AFRICA

The Land Forces Africa defence exhibition was held from 28-30 May at Gallagher Estate in Midrand, South Africa. The three day event included a floor of local defence systems and equipment manufacturers, as well as larger multinational companies such as BAE Land Systems and Saab.

Also included in the programme was a three-day series of presentations on various defence-related issues relating

The presentations often touched on important topics pertaining to the recently-released Draft Defence Review for the Department of Defence and SANDF, such as arms industry priorities, equipment and systems integration and interoperability throughout Southern Africa, and also broadened its scope to future strategic issues such as post-conflict reconstruction and development, future warfare planning, and procurement considerations for the future SANDF.

The event was organised by events company Spintelligent, which will be orchestrating a maritime security conference in Cape Town later in 2012.

"The presentations often touched on important topics pertaining to the recently-released Draft Defence Review for the Department of Defence and SANDF,..."

to South Africa. The speakers included Lt Gen Masondo, C SA Army, Brig Gen Drost, and Brig Gen Smith, General Officer Commanding of 43 Brigade in the SA Army.



The BAE Land Systems RG32M

BAE SYSTEMS SECURES €12.5 MILLION VEHICLE FOLLOW ON CONTRACT FROM FINLAND

BAE Systems secured a contract for more than €12.5 million (\$15.7 million USD) to supply 25 RG32M mine-hardened armoured patrol vehicles to the Finnish Defence Forces. This contract follows Finland's previous orders for 26 vehicles in 2010 and 23 vehicles in 2011.

"Manufactured by BAE Land Systems South Africa, the RG32M provides a cost effective solution with flexibility to meet a number of requirements and demands through reconfigurable mission-specific communication and weapon systems."

The RG32M is an all-purpose, mine-hardened vehicle with integrated ballistic protection for convoy support, infantry patrol and reconnaissance missions. Manufactured by BAE Land Systems South Africa, the RG32M

BAE LAND SYSTEMS

provides a cost effective solution with flexibility to meet a number of requirements and demands through reconfigurable mission-specific communication and weapon systems. Crew and vehicle survivability is enhanced through applied systems, engineering techniques and by utilising BAE Systems' unrivalled experience from vehicle operations in Africa and the Middle East, in addition to rigorous and systematic field-testing in South Africa, Sweden, the UK and the Middle East. There are currently 200 RG32M vehicles in service with the Swedish Armed Forces as well as 27 light tactical versions in service with the Irish Defence Forces. Deliveries will start in April 2013 and are expected to be completed in July 2013.

"Navistar previously fielded 970 RPG net kits for the MaxxPro family of vehicles to support Afghan operations."

The new kits will be fitted onto MaxxPro units operating in theatre. Delivery is scheduled to begin in August 2012 and be completed by the December 2012. Source: Navistar International Corp.

BOEING DELIVERS FINAL WEDGETAIL AEW&C AIRCRAFT TO AUSTRALIA

delivery of the Wedgetail capability. 2 Squadron now has a full complement of aircraft and additional capability that will enable Initial Operational Capability to be declared later this year," said Air Vice-Marshal Chris Deeble, program manager, Collins and Wedgetail, Defence Materiel Organisation.

"Delivering the last aircraft into the Wedgetail fleet is the result of hard work, dedication and collaboration by the Boeing-led team and our Australian customer in bringing this powerful air battle management system -- the first of its type -- to the RAAF," said Rick Heerdt, AEW&C vice president for Boeing.

Boeing has also delivered all ground segments to support the fleet, which is based at RAAF Base Williamtown in Newcastle, Australia.

"Through the Australia-based Wedgetail One Team, Boeing is working together with the RAAF AEW&C System Program Office and No. 42 Wing to provide the best value-for-money engineering, maintenance, training and supply support and the highest levels of aircraft availability to meet the RAAF's operational needs," said Heerdt.

Based on the Boeing Next-Generation 737-700 commercial airplane, the 737 AEW&C aircraft is designed to provide airborne battle management capability with an advanced multirole electronically scanned radar and 10 state-of-the-art mission crew consoles that are able to track airborne and maritime targets simultaneously. The mission crew can direct offensive and defensive forces while maintaining continuous surveillance of the operational area.

Boeing also has delivered three Peace Eye AEW&C aircraft to the Republic of Korea, with one more scheduled for delivery later this year. Turkey's first Peace Eagle AEW&C is on plan for delivery by the end of the year.

Source: The Boeing Company (NYSE: BA)

INTERNATIONAL INDUSTRY NEWS

NAVISTAR DEFENSE AWARDED \$59M FOR MRAP RPG NETS

Navistar Defense, LLC today received a contract from the US Army for \$59 million to deliver 1,357 rocket propelled grenade (RPG) net kits for Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) units in Afghanistan.

RPG nets provide additional protection against the anti-tank weapon of the same name. Navistar previously fielded 970 RPG net kits for the MaxxPro family of vehicles to support Afghan operations.



The Navistar Special Operations and Tactical Vehicle and Saratoga (fltr) respectively



THE BOEING COMPANY

The Boeing AEW&C

The Boeing Company [NYSE: BA] on May 2 delivered the sixth and final Wedgetail Airborne Early Warning and Control (AEW&C) aircraft to the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF).

"I would like to congratulate Boeing in achieving another key milestone in the

FEATURE ARTICLE:

RAYTHEON TEST FIRES NEW 155MM PROJECTILE

The testing of a new guided 155mm shell in the G6 wheeled artillery system opens up new possibilities, and markets, for states seeking new support technologies in their defence forces.



the G6 155 mm wheeled howitzer out to a range of 38 kilometres (23,6 miles), with all rounds landing within 5 meters (16,4 feet) of the target, Raytheon said in a statement.

According to Kevin Matthies, the Excalibur programme director for Raytheon Missile Systems, "These trials demonstrated Excalibur can give a true precision capability to G6 howitzers that can enhance the warfighter's defensive posture,".

This is due to the fact that the Excalibur projectile, a product of a joint US-Swedish development programme, which was first successfully fielded in theatre during 2007 by the US Army and Marine Corps, provides a whole host of advantages in comparison to conventional 155mm projectiles.

GREATER PRECISION CAPABILITIES

These advantages arise from the fact that the Excalibur system is a precision-guided, autonomous artillery round with extended range capabilities. The precision guidance system it is equipped with uses a combined Global Positioning System (GPS) and Inertial Navigation System (INS) to engage targets with a maximum circular error probable (CEP) of around 10 metres, which far exceeds

In a press release on the 8th of May, Raytheon Company (NYSE: RTN) revealed that it had successfully test fired 4 of its 'Excalibur' 155mm artillery projectiles from the G6 Rhino, the self-propelled howitzer manufactured in South Africa by Denel Land Systems. This was conducted during a field trial demonstration of the 'Excalibur' projectiles for an undisclosed customer. However, there are only three armed forces in the world that use the G6 system,

these being the South African Defence Force (SANDF), the UAEs' Union Defence Force (UDF), and lastly the Sultan of Oman's Armed Forces (SOAF). On the other hand the G5 towed howitzer, upon which the G6 'Rhino' is based, has been slightly more successful as it has been exported to Iran, Malaysia, Saddam Hussein's Iraq, and Qatar, while also remaining in service with the SANDF.

Four rounds of the combat-proven Excalibur were successfully fired from

conventional 155mm projectiles with an average CEP of between 200 to 300 metres, at moderate ranges. In fact, it is so successful, that the initial combat experience with Excalibur in Iraq in the summer of 2007 saw 92% of rounds falling within 4 metres of the target.

'Excalibur' projectiles come in two variations - the 'standard' format known

while expending fewer rounds, which in turn lessens the burden of logistics.

THE G6 ARTILLERY SYSTEM- A BATTLEFIELD GAME CHANGER

With the G6 Artillery system, there are a number of features which make it a noteworthy artillery platform. To start with it was developed and refined by

"Four rounds of the combat-proven Excalibur were successfully fired from the G6 155 mm wheeled howitzer out to a range of 38 kilometres (23,6 miles), with all rounds landing within 5 meters (16,4 feet) of the target."

as Block Ia-1, and the 'extended range' format as Block Ia-2. Excalibur's Block Ia-1 projectile has a range of around 23,000 metres while the extended range Block Ia-2 projectiles can achieve between 40,000 and 57,000 metres, depending on configuration. Both projectiles possess folding glide fins which allow the projectile to glide from the top of a ballistic arc towards the target. This allows Excalibur to achieve a near-vertical angle-of-attack, which is ideal for achieving precision effects in urban or complex terrain. Lastly Excalibur is fitted with a fragmenting warhead with concrete penetration capability, closely coupled to a multifunction fuze that provides height-of-burst (HOB), point detonating (PD) and point-detonate delay (PDD) fuze settings.

All told therefore the 'Excalibur' projectile is an ideal tool in almost any modern battlefield as it is able to successfully defeat specific point targets while avoiding damage to surrounding structures, non-combatants and friendly forces at extended ranges. It is this ability to minimise collateral damage which provides commanders with the flexibility to engage at the tactical level,

South Africa primarily to support rapidly advancing mechanised infantry and armoured divisions. This is something it excels at, due to the fact that the onboard gyro-controlled navigation and automatic laying systems enable the gun to be brought into action independently within 60 seconds of stopping and then move off 30 seconds after firing, thus presenting an elusive target. It is additionally fully compatible with NATO standard 155-mm ammunition and has a direct fire range of 3000 metres (using a Frag-HE round). Used together with the specially developed modular charge ammunition system, the 45-calibre gun provides accurate coverage of a target zone of more than 1000 square kilometres, without change of position. Under combat conditions the G6 carries 64 complete rounds on board, but can be easily resupplied via an ammunition shoot located at the rear of the vehicle, from an external ammunition supply vehicles and its crew. The G6 is equipped with an electronically controlled hydraulic flick rammer that provides an initial rate of fire of 3 rounds per minute.

High mobility is ensured by the permanent six-wheel drive purpose-built

vehicle, powered by an air-cooled diesel engine through a six-speed automatic gearbox. The maximum speed of the G6 is 85km/h on road, and around 30km/h in off-road conditions. Furthermore the G6's armoured turret and hull provide protection against small arms fire, shell splinters, landmine explosions and, in the vital 60 frontal arc, against 20mm attack. Additionally, the shape and armour thickness of the chassis hull allows it to withstand at least three mine detonations (against a TM46 antitank landmine or equivalent) before being immobilized.

On top of this the G6, first introduced in 1987, is a combat proven system. It was successfully used, although to a limited extent, by South African troops at the battle of Cuito Cuanavale in 1987/88 during the Angolan bush war. With its combat credibility, the G6 'Rhino' is arguably one of the most powerful self-propelled howitzers in the world, primarily due to its ability to fire 155mm projectiles out to a maximum range of 52,500 metres with Denel's special velocity-enhanced Long Range Projectile (V-LAP).

NEW UPGRADE TECHNOLOGY

However Denel's latest versions of the G6 which were launched in 2003, known as the G6-52 and the G6-52 Extended Range (ER) Platform, includes features such as a reduced crew, much greater achievable ranges, nearly 70 kph off-road top speed and Multiple Rounds Simultaneous Impact (MRSI) technology. Notably the G6-52 ER has successfully test fired a 155mm V-LAP projectile out to range of 73,000 m. However, even the older G6's, of which there are approximately 43 in service with the SANDF, is still a highly capable long range artillery system.

Stephen Burger, the CEO of Denel Land Systems said that, "The G6 was ahead of its time when it was first launched in 1987," and that, "Through

our continuous research and investment in the gun we have ensured it remains ahead of the pack as the most versatile and reliable artillery system in its class.”

All told, the combination of the extensive capabilities of the Denel G6 ‘Rhino’ self-propelled howitzer, and the Raytheon ‘Excalibur’ ammunition are set to even further increase the combat effectiveness of the two systems. The G6’s high mobility, speed, rate of fire and ease of use, combined with the ‘Excalibur’s’ phenomenal accuracy could prove to be a massive windfall for any of the three militaries which currently operate the G6 System.

IDENTIFYING THE CLIENT

Although Raytheon was unwilling to name who they were test firing the ‘Excalibur’ ammunition for, it would appear that of the three countries that operate the system, the UAE is the most likely. This is simply because over the past decade the UAE has accounted for more than half the arms imports into the gulf region, according to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute



DEFENCEWEB

surface-to air missile (SAM) systems, 60 UH-60M armed transport helicopters, 12 C-130J-30 and 6 C-17 transport aircraft, 3 A-330 MRTT tanker/transport aircraft and 6 Baynunah corvettes, as well as up to 50 Pantsyr-S1 air defence systems, 2 Falaj-2 corvettes and a frigate. One other key purchase was the Terminal High Altitude Area Defence (THAAD) anti-ballistic missile (ABM) system, of which the UAE now has three.

Clearly even if most of the expenditure has been earmarked for purchasing new capital equipment, there will still be sufficient financing to

sensing component of their THAAD ABM system, on which Raytheon was an important sub-contractor.

IMPLICATIONS FOR DENEL

The only potential drawback in the entire process could be as far as Denel’s new munitions company is affiliated. The company, Rheinmetall Denel Munition (RDM) was created

on 1 September 2008 when Rheinmetall Waffe Munition GmbH of Germany acquired a 51% share in certain parts of Denel’s munitions manufacturing facilities. All propellants, heavy calibre ammunition and pyrotechnics are now manufactured by RDM.

The most obvious drawback would be that if the UAE was to begin using ‘Excalibur’ projectiles, a percentage share of RDM’s artillery ammunition market share in the UAE would decline. However, it seems unlikely that the UAE would suspend all conventional 155mm projectile purchases from RDM. This is because it is important to recognise that in spite of all the benefits the ‘Excalibur’ projectiles offer, they still are subject to certain limitations. The three most important limitations which prevent ‘Excalibur’ projectiles from completely excluding traditional 155mm projectiles are most likely to be cost, production volumes and the high level of sophistication required in order to effectively utilise the ammunition to its fullest potential.

As such Raytheon only produces somewhere in the region of 1000 to 2500 projectiles per year, of which the majority will still go to the US Army and Marines. In addition these projectiles cost in the region of US\$ 80,000 per projectile, excluding the propellant charge, although this is set to decrease to somewhere in the region of US\$ 50,000

“...there will still be sufficient financing to purchase ‘Excalibur’ ammunition for the considerable number of 78 G6’s the UAE UDF currently operates.”

(SIPRI). This is reflected in the fact that the UAE has a defence budget of US\$ 15, 7 billion in 2010, ranking it as the 18th largest global defence budget. Most of this expenditure has been assigned to contracts for the delivery of 62 Mirage-2000-9 combat aircraft from France and 80 F-16E combat aircraft from the US which were completed in 2005–2008. However in 2008–2009, the UAE acquired 30 AH-64D combat helicopters, as well as numerous Patriot

purchase ‘Excalibur’ ammunition for the considerable number of 78 G6’s the UAE UDF currently operates. This also seems highly likely due to the close working relationship the UAE has with both the US government, and Raytheon. In fact, Raytheon has enjoyed extensive dealings with the UAE, with the company selling the UAE UDF 2 AN/TPY-2 radars in 2011, which Raytheon claims is the world’s most advanced forward-looking mobile radar system, and is a key

when they go into full production. Finally these factors are coupled with the fact that 'Excalibur' requires modern war fighting capabilities, such as Raytheon's Advanced Field Artillery Tactical Data System (AFATDS) and its Enhanced Portable Inductive Artillery Fuze Setter (EPIAFS). EPIAFS can be used in non-digitised howitzers provided that Raytheon's Portable Excalibur Fire Control System (PEFCS) which allows EPIAFS to integrate with a fire control system is used instead of the AFATDS. Additionally 'Excalibur' is only most effective in theatres of operation which enjoy the presence of unhindered Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV's) to ensure precise target observation and acquisition. This is something which the US Military can provide extensively in the theatres in which the 'Excalibur' projectiles are being used, such as Afghanistan, but which other armed forces may not be able to do quite so effectively.

Therefore the competition between Raytheon and RDM is unlikely to significantly disrupt RDM's market share. This is because even though Raytheon Missile Systems 'Excalibur' Ammunition is generating significant sales volumes, accounting for most of its recorded \$180 million of operating income in the first quarter of 2012 compared to \$155 million in the first quarter of 2011, it is only sold to a narrow customer base at the moment. So much so that most of this income comes off the back of significant orders such as the one the US Army placed in 2010 to the tune of \$173 million. On top of the bulk of Raytheon's Excalibur Ammunition going to the US Army and Marines, the only other operators of the 'Excalibur' ammunition at present are Sweden and Canada, with Australia and Norway awaiting approval of their sales requests.

Therefore RDM is unlikely to be significantly impacted by any new

customers such as the UAE purchasing 'Excalibur' ammunition, as there will still remain a need for standard ammunition, which although lacking the precision of 'Excalibur' projectiles, is still a cost effective alternative under most combat conditions. Undoubtedly therefore RDM will continue to supply the bulk of this standard ammunition to the UAE, as well as an extensive client base of the NATO member states, Asia, the Middle East, South America and Africa.

In addition, due to the fact that the G6 'Rhino' fires a NATO standard 155mm shell, RDM was never guaranteed an exclusive contract with any of the existing G6 operators, by virtue of being a sole supplier of a specialised calibre ammunition. However, although losing out to Raytheon in the precision munitions market, RDM is still able to compete with Raytheon as far as the newer G6-52, and G6-52 ER systems are concerned as it is only RDM that produced the extra extended range V-LAP round which give the newer G6's the ability to conservatively engage targets up to 52,500 m away from their firing point, in comparison to even the Block Ia-2 extended range 'Excalibur' projectiles with their maximum 56,000 metre operating range.

Lastly, Rheinmetall Waffe Munition GmbH, the major shareholder in RDM has already begun producing its own precision guided artillery projectile, known as the DM702, 155mm-SMART projectile. Although it differs slightly from Raytheon's 'Excalibur', the SMART projectile still offers many of the features found on 'Excalibur' projectiles. The difference between the two, however, is that SMART projectiles are primarily designed to engage both stationary and mobile armoured units, as opposed to a set of coordinates like an 'Excalibur' projectile does. Each SMART 155 munition is composed of two sensor fused sub-munitions designed

for automatic target acquisition and engagement by an Explosively Forged Penetrator (EFP). After the sub-munitions are expelled from the shell case, opening parachutes and arm the warheads, each weapon scans a specific sector in a spiralling pattern, as it auto-rotates under a parachute, scanning the area underneath it with IR and mm radar or millimetre wave radiometer sensor. Once positive indication of a target is provided by both sensors, an aim point is calculated and the EFP is activated, attacking the target from above.

Crucially, the shell requires no pre-firing preparation and is capable of identifying targets autonomously, meaning it can be fired from virtually any 155mm howitzer. Incidentally in a recent test, SMART ammunition was fired from a UAE G6 self-propelled howitzer and scored a kill rate of 67 percent of the armoured targets engaged during the demonstration.

Therefore it seems unlikely that should the UAE purchase 'Excalibur' projectiles from Raytheon, that RDM and Denel specifically would suffer any major setbacks in terms of either market share or their bottom line.

Ultimately, however, the overall impact of the combination of the G6 weapon platform and the Raytheon 'Excalibur' ammunition is likely to significantly improve the capabilities of an already outstanding artillery system, while in addition offering a whole host of new advantages to those who are looking at Denel Land Systems G6-52, and G6-52 ER, as potential additions to their armed forces. Combining high levels of accuracy and extended range capabilities, in a highly mobile configuration is likely to see new customers for the South African made G6, and the US-Swedish 'Excalibur' ammunition, as well as providing greater flexibility and firepower to the three existing G6 operators.

FEATURE ARTICLE: INSIDE EUROSATORY 2012



Delegates arriving in their masses at Eurosatory 2012

From 10 to 15 June over 50 000 visitors from virtually every country in the world descended upon Paris, France, for the Eurosatory Defence Exhibition. With 1433 exhibitors at the show grounds, Eurosatory represents one of the largest defence-related conferences to occur on a regular basis.

The exhibition itself represents some

“Exo-skeleton infantry systems, while technically impressive, are of minimal value in the African conflict environment.”

The Eurosatory exhibition in Paris highlighted the divide between high-tech militaries and practical, low-technology-minded developing nations.

of the most cutting edge systems in global defence today, from robotic exoskeletons, air-transportable special operations vehicles, and anti rocket systems, through to lightweight power generators, guided artillery shells, .50cal gatling guns, and a variety of vehicle and armour systems suited for virtually any conceivable conflict situation.

That said, the African component of Eurosatory was a poignant reminder of the low-tech environment in which



Exo-skeleton infantry systems, while technically impressive, are of minimal value in the African conflict environment.

African militaries must thrive. High-tech thermal/nightvision hybrid optics are of little use in most African armouries, considering the AK47, HK G3, and other small arms still used in the continent are generally not employed with any major technology beyond a shoulder strap and tape around a second magazine of ammunition. RPG-defeating laser systems for use on main battle tanks again are of little use when the technical complexities of operating armoured formations are barely considered in many African countries. Thus there were large portions of the show that simply were not marketed or designed for African use.

"... stalwart local industries that did participate included Truvelo Armoury, who were showcasing its high-grade precision sniper rifles."



UAE large national pavilion, one of the new defence industry entrants.



African Armed Forces Journal was present, but many other significant African industry members were sadly not.

Although exceptions certainly existed. Hesco, for example, was showcasing its range of cheap and easy-to-assemble mesh and canvas fortification and fencing systems, which are of obvious use to militaries in Africa looking towards great disaster response efforts, whether climate or humanitarian. Utilising simple, cheap materials instead of complicated and technically-difficult systems proved a key success in marketing to African nations historically. Hesco will also be

at Africa Aerospace and Defence in South Africa in September.

The absence of the Denel Group or any South African pavilion was quite conspicuous, as the lack of African defence industry participants was certainly a cause for question. That said, stalwart local industries that did participate included Truvelo Armoury, who were showcasing its high-grade precision

sniper rifles, Reutech, Grintek Ewation, and in separate booths were Zebra Armour showcasing their ballistic protection equipment. Although official African delegations were certainly present, including the South African ambassador, the show was clearly dominated by international companies and systems.

Situated around two interior halls and one exterior, the exhibition did encompass a broad array of companies, while allowing for delegates and

visitors to network and meet with businesses. Acmat, an armoured truck and vehicle manufacturer linked with Renault Trucks Defense, held an impressive court in the outside section of the exhibition. With clients throughout Africa, Acmat has drawn

"A corner-shot mount for a pistol, for example, was easily trumped by another exhibitor on the other side of the hall showcasing a simple reflector optic that mounts directly onto any rail-system."

a lot of interest for its refreshingly simple-to-operate systems, which is key in successful operation throughout the continent.

Another interesting feature of

Eurosatory 2012 was that of the Special Forces targeted systems. With significant discretionary budgets, the utilisation of Special Forces' equipment has become something of a booming side-market. Navistar's detailed explanation of the air-transportable Special Operations Tactical Vehicle, based on its trademark Saratoga system, is a case in point of a vehicle system that can be used by regular and special forces interchangeably, is easy to operate and maintain, and allows for an impressive 'reskinning' capability to disguise the vehicle as an ordinary 4x4 vehicle. "Doing more with less" was certainly a major consideration by Navistar and many other exhibitors.

"The absence of the Denel Group or any South African pavilion was quite conspicuous, as the lack of African defence industry participants was certainly a cause for question."

Although the defence industry as a whole has stagnated somewhat, the amount of innovative technologies being showcased was encouraging to see, although the exhibition often suffered from a case of overlapping

systems for the same use, as witnessed by the plethora of pistol and non-lethal ammunition suppliers. A corner-shot mount for a pistol, for example, was easily trumped by another exhibitor on the other side of the hall showcasing a simple reflector optic that mounts directly onto any rail-system.

During the calendar year there are enough defence-related exhibitions to fill up virtually every week in each month. Eurosatory, much like AAD for the African market, is one of the most important ones however, as it sees the entire world converging into Paris. Unlike other region-specific exhibitions, Eurosatory serves as the central hub for all defence participants to become informed, involved, and invested in system solutions for their military or civil security needs.



The live demonstration area featured everything from mine detection to UAV displays.

GLOBAL ISSUES AFFECTING AFRICA

THE HUNT FOR JOSEPH KONY



A brief introduction on Joseph Kony, the LRA, and the difficulty of finding a warlord in Central Africa

KONY AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY

Kony initially formed the LRA to overthrow the government of Uganda. After his attempt failed, Kony and the LRA began a campaign of terror spanning more than two decades, often involving the abduction of children, the displacement of thousands of people and the mutilation of victims. In 2006 the LRA was forced out of Uganda and Kony continued his campaign of brutality in neighbouring countries, the Central African Republic (CAR), South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

There has been a surge in attention on Joseph Kony through the release of "KONY 2012", a viral marketing campaign launched by NGO Invisible Children, with the aim of soliciting support for the renewal in late 2012 of the US military presence in Central Africa. The campaign hit an initial flood of attention, but has since waned. There are critical questions about the KONY 2012 campaign that are not addressed in full. Key amongst this is whether a few hundred US soldiers, no matter how long they stay in Uganda and the DRC, will ever prove enough to locate and detain the LRA leader.

In October 2011 US President Barack Obama committed 100 Special Forces troops to assist central African nations, mostly in an advisory role, in hunting down and capturing Joseph Kony, the leader of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for crimes against

humanity, most notably the abduction of children to be used as sex slaves and child soldiers. Six months after the operation began US and African joint forces have still failed to apprehend or kill Joseph Kony. The rapes, abductions and killings by the LRA continue, but the pace has slowed down dramatically.

UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT

Kony and the LRA pose no known national security threat to the US, so the question remains as to why exactly the US is sending troops to help 'finish

"Key amongst this is whether a few hundred US soldiers, no matter how long they stay in Uganda and the DRC, will ever prove enough to locate and detain the LRA leader."

off' a wanted African militant? As part of their 'War on Terror' the US have pledged to combat terrorism globally, but it remains puzzling as to why Kony and the LRA have recently been considered as such a high priority threat when their sphere of influence spans no further than Central Africa.

The US has strong military ties with Uganda which has committed thousands of troops, backed by US aid, to help fight al-Shabaab, a terrorist organisation with links to al-Qaida, in Somalia. The US has not had troops in Somalia since 1993 when 18 US soldiers were killed and a Black Hawk helicopter shot down over the capital. The US would also gain favour in the region and promote their image in Africa. Kony's actions have been widely condemned and given his recent media attention it is unlikely that anyone would oppose US assistance which central African leaders have described as 'invaluable'. The US also has the backing of numerous human rights organizations that believe US assistance

is of paramount importance in the capturing of Kony.

REGIONAL RESPONSE

The US has made it clear that their assistance will almost entirely be in the form of advisors, funding and equipment. US soldiers are combat equipped, but have been given strict orders not to engage LRA troops unless in self-defence. The US has stated very clearly that 'African security issues are the responsibility of the Africans themselves'.

The central African nations affected by the LRA have pledged a contingent of 5000 soldiers to the United Nations (UN) backed African Union (AU) joint military strategy against the rebel group. As part of the strategic plan the AU officially launched the establishment of a regional task force (RTF) based in Yambio, South Sudan. This initiative has been in planning for months and is a clear indication of the AU's commitment to combating regional terrorism.

In the past few years the LRA numbers have been reduced from well over 3 000 to as low as a few hundred, but as small as they have become they still remain a prominent threat in the region. Ugandan forces that have been pursuing LRA leaders and routing them out of hiding cannot continue their pursuit beyond their own borders, thus creating a safe haven for the LRA. Therefore, the AU initiative is a major step in the right direction, as regional cooperation is essential to capturing Kony and ending the LRA.

INTENT

At this point in the LRA's existence there are lingering questions behind the motives of Kony. Whether his persistent 'war' against Central Africa is motivated by actual, measurable political objectives, much like a terrorist organisation, or whether his diminished group is now simply surviving, preferring to adopt outright banditry as a means of thriving in the jungle, since all urban or semi-urban areas are off limits for any LRA member.

Their tactics and current evasion of authorities indicate that the group is more likely the latter, although armed groups in Central Africa can often be "adopted" by political agents interested in destabilising regions. It is not impossible that Kony has in fact switched his objectives entirely, and is now acting as a band of mercenaries. The constant lack of intelligence on the LRA remains the key obstacle in both understanding and defeating the organisation.

"In the past few years the LRA numbers have been reduced from well over 3 000 to as low as a few hundred, but as small as they have become they still remain a prominent threat in the region."

KONY REMAINS ELUSIVE

Despite the significant amount of US assistance and aid, the UN and AU joint strategic plan, and the thousands of soldiers pledged by central African

states to the cause, Joseph Kony remains at large and the LRA remains active. US field bases are strategically located in Djema and Obo of the CAR, Nzara of South Sudan, Dungu of the DRC, and Entebbe of Uganda. US commanders admit they are unable to pick up the trail of Kony, but believe he is hiding in the dense jungles between Obo and Djema.

Pursued by thousands of African military personnel, aided by advanced US military technology, satellites and high-tech surveillance equipment, Kony has so far managed to evade his enemies by relying on age old military tactics. He has trained his men not to use radios or other electronic devices, but rather to rely on message carriers and rendezvous points.

Kony is on the run and US and African military commanders are confident they have the upper hand, with Kony running out of time and places to hide. There is a significant challenge in finding out the exact location of Kony. The KONY 2012 assumption made was that Uganda and DRC ought to be the primary area of operations. However, accounts of attacks and suspected LRA movements have indicated that he is further north, in South Sudan or the CAR. The recent AU Task Force could well assist in this, as more troops dedicated to the destruction of the LRA, while ranging from the DRC into the CAR, has a good chance of yielding some valuable information on Kony's whereabouts. The May capture of Caesar Acellam, one of Kony's senior commanders, in a region between the CAR and DRC, proves that the new task force is effective, and also shows that the LRA has at least in part migrated northwards.

ITURI PERSPECTIVE: MONUSCO IN THE DRC

The violence in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo's Kivu region has practically become a visual and reporting cliché. Young soldiers belonging to an assortment of uncoordinated 'rebel' groups or local militias continue to draw blood in the DRC, remnants from Rwanda's proxies in the first Congo war. Journalists have returned time and time again with new images of poverty, underdevelopment

drawn criticism of MONUSCO's inability to create conditions of peace sufficient for the further development of the region. The Eastern DRC, however, is larger than the Kivus, just as the thinly disguised uprising of the first Congo War was not a proxy for Rwandan interests alone. North of the Kivus, in Orientale province, the district of Ituri offers a different perspective on the possibilities and limits of MONUS-



RICHARD STUPART

MONUSCO have fulfilled their primary role in Central Africa. But it is the softer side of peace-keeping that now warrants attention.

and suffering – making the region an unfortunate synonym for hopeless, uncoordinated violence.

MONUSCO, the UN force deployed to the DRC, is currently the largest armed mission that the organisation has deployed anywhere in the world, at over 19,000 personnel (as at April 2012). Yet the recent resurgence of conflict in the Kivus has once again

CO activities.

During the first Congo war, as Rwanda was extending its reach into the Kivus to massacre ex-Interahamwe forces – and depending on your politics, every possible Hutu as well – Uganda had launched its own forces into Ituri. Securing the capital, Bunia, and the surrounding gold and timber resources, the Ugandan People's

Defence Force (UPDF) would remain ensconced until their departure in April 2003. During their tenure, the UPDF facilitated the transfer of small arms to various groups in the region, whose pre-existing tensions over land ownership had gained political momentum from events further south in the Kivus.

The Hema and Lendu communities, in particular, constituted one of the largest pairs of armed antagonists, tearing the district capital of Bunia apart on the departure of the Ugandan forces. In a textbook replay of UN mandate failure, over five hundred people were massacred in Bunia in a matter of days as armed communities descended on the town to seek revenge on their rivals as the UN mission based there could do little but secure their compound and watch.

The UN response in the aftermath of the Bunia massacre, however, offers some important lessons about what can be done right in the region awash with guns and murderous intentions.

Initially, an EU force headed by France intervened during Operation Artemis to stabilize the situation, ejecting the militia from Bunia and stabilizing the immediate situation sufficiently for the MONUSCO to resume under a chapter VII mandate. Able to engage the militias directly, the return of the MONUSCO achieved remarkable results. By 2006, the last of the major militias in the region had ceased hostilities in exchange for amnesty, and a process of DDR wrapped up



RICHARD STUPART

UN Supply convoys are under little threat in the DRC.

"... as Rwanda was extending its reach into the Kivus to massacre ex-Interahamwe forces – and depending on your politics, every possible Hutu as well – Uganda had launched its own forces into Ituri."

around May of that year.

Fast forward to 2012, and MONUSCO in Bunia now presides over an area that appears starkly secure when compared to the Kivus. While still massively underdeveloped, large-scale agriculture has resumed, the region is the primary conduit for petrol transport through to Kisangani

in the interior, and issues of conflict minerals appear to be nonexistent. For the most part – though there are caveats – the area is becoming ripe for longer-term development projects and more optimistic future planning than is the case in the Kivus. Despite dire road networks, the region is already becoming a transport corridor to Kisangani and areas further west. Coffee from Ituri is now being exported to Uganda for processing and export through enterprising local companies.

SO WHAT HAPPENED DIFFERENTLY?

First, there was the political terrain in which MONUSCO-Ituri was operating. Unlike the Kivus, where the Rwandan shadow still looms large, Uganda's withdrawal from Ituri in 2003 appears to have been as thorough politically as it was militarily. The commercial

relationship between the region and Uganda has remained – both legally and illegally as Congolese hardwood making its way to Fort Portal in Uganda continues to illustrate – but Uganda has shown no real interest in keeping Ituri from re-establishing law and order. This lays in stark interest to the Rwandan/Kivu relationship, where the government continues to remain interested in keeping a hand in the security situation and stands accused of supporting rebel commander Bosco Ntaganda, as well as continuing to shelter his predecessor, Laurent Nkunda. The work of peace building is difficult enough in an area as difficult to traverse as the Congo, but when the neighbouring territory is able to intervene to protect rebel commanders and continue to supply weapons and other support, it is largely reduced to an exercise in futility.

Then there is the actual physical terrain of Ituri. While the Kivus are generally dense forest, including the Virunga national park, much of the Ituri landscape between Bunia and Uganda is open grassland. In simple,

ground east of Bunia for them to conceal substantial operations from MONUSCO air surveillance. Once the UN mission returned with a more aggressive mandate, armed groups

“The UN response in the aftermath of the Bunia massacre, however, offers some important lessons about what can be done right in the region awash with guns and murderous intentions.”

unwilling to disarm were rapidly pushed to the forested margins of the district, including the Ituri rainforests towards Kisangani, where they gradually decayed, unable to resupply from Uganda.

Finally, the mission was able to progress with effective DDR campaigns fairly rapidly after securing the area. That it became impossible for armed groups to operate openly in significant numbers, doubtlessly helped pressure them into participating in the programme. Reducing the numbers of small arms in the district has significantly reduced local capacity for armed violence, though many of the underlying land issues that originally fomented conflict in the region have remained, and will need to be addressed in time.

Enforced overall stability, though, has meant that basic economic activities in the district have resumed in the years since 2006, including

agriculture, carpentry and a range of other basic activities, producing a peace dividend for many local economies that has drawn some of the sting from previous rivalries. This trend seems likely to continue.

As with any (relative) success story, however, there are caveats. Areas in the south of Ituri, close to the border with the restive Kivus, remain prone to armed violence from groups linked to the region – including an attack on the town of Beni that resulted in hundreds of criminals being freed from its jails as recently as late 2011. Local communities also report harassment and occasional violence at the hands of soldiers from the Congolese national army, the FARDC. These issues highlight the limits to which an intervention force like MONUSCO is able to create and maintain peace.

While it is possible to respond to larger, macro-security threats in the region, given the right circumstances, a deeper, more permanent peace will require the development of an effective local policing infrastructure to replace the influence of corrupt

“As with any (relative) success story, however, there are caveats.”

networks within an underpaid and opportunistic Congolese army.

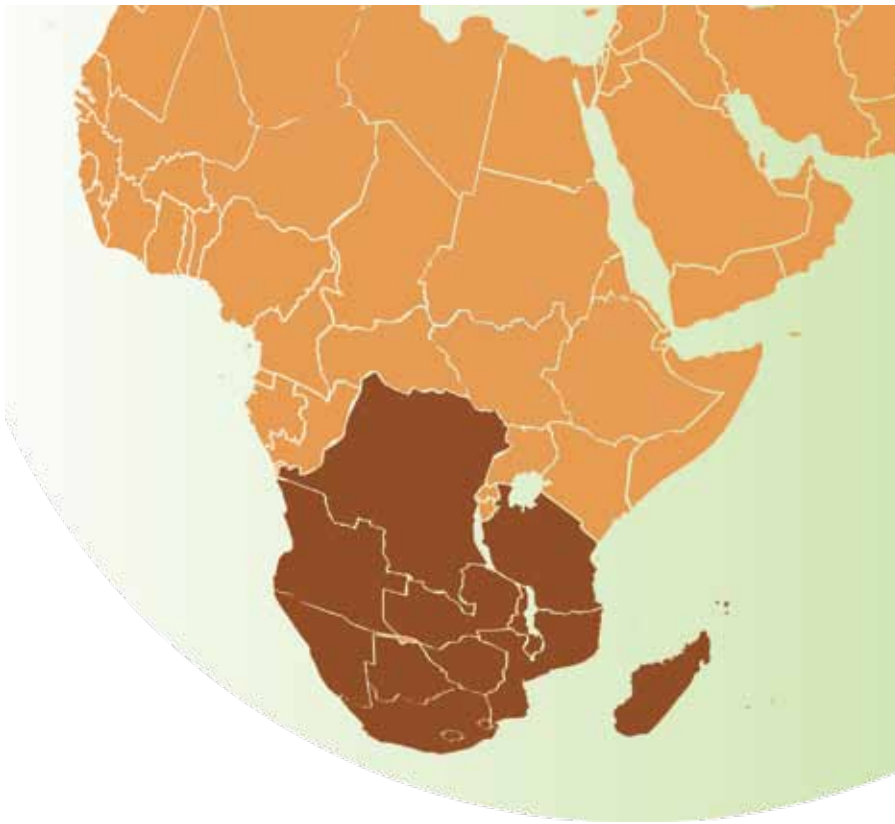
In the case of Ituri, MONUSCO has largely taken the district as far as it can go. While remaining a success story of how a UN intervention can be made to work, without a functioning, non-predatory state to take over, it's an instructive lesson in the limits of armed peacekeeping in the absence of an able state partner.



RICHARD STUPART

tactical terms, the moment the UN was permitted to find and pressure rebel groups, there was very little

SECURITY CHALLENGES CONFRONTING SADC'S NEW MINERAL BONANZA



INTRODUCTION

The emergence of the African continent as a hotbed of resource extraction has attracted much attention and interest over the past decade. More recently, southern Africa has become a centre of attention as massive new discoveries come to light with SADC member states experiencing unprecedented minerals and hydrocarbons discoveries, linked to record inflows of foreign mining investment from key global players.

While promising new economic prosperity for the region, it is also prompting a re-evaluation of the subcontinent's security development and requirement needs. The African Union (AU) has stated that they expect at least 20 of Africa's 54 states to move into Middle Income Status by 2030, many from the SADC region. However, this will only be contingent on the pursuance of correct policies within an enabling and necessary security environment.

Doctor Rupiya is former Special Forces Officer and Parachute Regiment Commander. He also sits on the African Armed Forces Journal panel of advisors.

SADC'S NEW RESOURCE RICHES

Massive discoveries of critically needed new natural resources are once again putting southern Africa on the world map as a potential world player in resource markets. The importance of the region was underlined when in 2010, America's Citibank put South Africa's metals and minerals endowment at a global first-place value of between US\$2,3-trillion and US\$2,5-trillion.

However, it is not just South Africa (SA) which is capturing global attention. Angola's oil dominance in the region is generally well known, sitting with oil reserves of 13 billion barrels compared to Nigeria 36,5 billion barrels and Libya's 41,5 billion barrels. However, a new player on the block is potentially Angola's southern neighbour Namibia with estimated reserves of 11 billion barrels along its western coastline. This is set to trigger a new offshore oil exploration bonanza for the country. With commercial sales slated to start in 2015, the country's small population of just 2,5 million could become Africa's richest if its new found oil riches are responsibly exploited.

Staying with hydro-carbons, the recent discovery of shale gas under SA's Karoo desert has the potential to

change geopolitical relations, boasting the world's fifth largest shale-gas deposit after China, the United States (US), Mexico and Argentina. Moreover, the largest known methane gas deposit in Southern and Eastern Africa was recently discovered in Matabeleland province of Zimbabwe.

In addition, the massive offshore gas discoveries along the coastlines of Kenya, Tanzania, Mozambique and Madagascar suggest that south-east Africa is set to become a game changer in the global gas market. Giving credence to this was the recent discovery of some 44 trillion cubic meters of natural gas announced by the Houston based oil giant Anadarko Petroleum. Located in the Rovuma Basin and off-shore of the Mozambican coast, constitutes another potential "game changer" to the region's importance in the global energy equation. This linked with discoveries in Tanzanian waters, East Africa is now considered "a world class natural gas production centre" by Anadarko and its associates.

A consortium of companies has begun putting together an initial investment package of US\$50 billion (of the estimated US\$68 billion required) to extract the natural gas, initially for sale to Japan and South Korea. Companies involved include American Exxon Mobile, United Kingdom BP and Dutch giant- Shell, Japanese, Chinese, and Indian shareholding under the umbrella of Anadarko Mozambique Oil & Gas Company.

Coming close on the heels of the discovery of coal and natural gas in northern Mozambique, adjacent to discoveries off the Tanzanian shores, is the willingness and rationale by investors to create infrastructure that can be deployed in both areas for purposes of settling hundreds of professional and

technical workers. For example, two key US companies in the petroleum services logistics sector – Halliburton and Schlumberger – have acquired or are in the process of acquiring land in the far northern parts of Mozambique, with a view to setting up services related to gas production. [Nick Lyne, Emerging Energy Player, First/World Petroleum, May 2012.]

The presence of these companies has security implications for the region, however, given their close links to the US political security establishment. Like their Chinese, French and Russian counterparts – the interlocking interests of large multi-nationals with those

"Like their Chinese, French and Russian counterparts – the interlocking interests of large multi-nationals with those of state national security structures require monitoring and observation when investment decisions are made by them linked to resource extraction."

of state national security structures require monitoring and observation when investment decisions are made by them linked to resource extraction.

Regarding other resources, the SADC region continues to impress. Analysts believe that southern Africa's coking coal capacity, which includes South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, could rival that of Australia. Described as Africa's new coal Eldorado, Mozambique is set to become

Africa's largest coal exporter should it overcome its infrastructure constraints. Coal deposits, estimated at over 10 billion tons, are considered second only to South Africa by the African Development Bank (ADB) and Nick Lyne of the First World Petroleum and are the focus of attention by some of the world's largest mining and energy companies. Located in the Tete corridor, companies opening mines there include Brazil's VALE' Australia's Rio Tinto's (Riversdale)' Britain's Anglo American Corporation, India's Jindal Steel and South Africa's Grindrod. Assured markets for the commodity are available in China and India.

Moving to Zimbabwe, Chiadzwa in the Marange district is considered the "richest alluvial diamond strike ever seen". Representing 25 percent of global demand, spread over 70 square kms and able to support between 11 to 16 commercially viable mines for 30 years, it is estimated to be worth over US\$800 billion. This is according to Marck van Boschel from the World Diamond Centre in Belgium as well as other related leading expert testimonies from Chaim Ever Zohar, author of the authoritative Diamond Intelligence Brief Vol.27 (694), (1 February

2012); Dan McDougall from Canada's Pan African News, and Global Witness: Diamonds: A Good Deal for Zimbabwe (February 2012), amongst others.

Alongside Zimbabwe, Botswana is moving swiftly to entrench itself as a major diamond player not just on the production side but also on the polishing and sorting side after the recent renewal of the Debswana mining contract between Botswana and De Beers in 2011 will see the

arrival from London of over 150 senior professionals and back up staff to the country. This is in addition to new diamond mining investments by the De Beers giant of just under US\$4 billion in extending the lifespan of the Jwaneng diamond mine.

Given such synergies found in the diamond industry in the region, one expects the need for greater coordination to take place between Zimbabwe, Namibia, Mozambique, South Africa and Botswana on the profitable exploitation of this commodity now and in the future.

STRATEGIC SECURITY CONSIDERATIONS

Notwithstanding this potential new resource bonanza, the security implications of this new found wealth has not been considered or addressed by key stakeholders in the region. The question, in line with this research is then, what security efforts are in place to answer the challenges posed in protecting this finite resource and those mining it including foreign professionals and investors over the next 30 odd years? How should governments, the private sector, investors and other players respond to the discovery and exploitation of these staggering new but finite discoveries?

The challenge for the region is that new mineral and hydro-carbon discoveries have witnessed an unprecedented influx of foreign investment in exploration and new development activities. It has also brought with it new problems with respect to illegal mining and the attempted establishment of illegal networks to extract resources separately from conventional trading channels i.e. diamonds and cobalt. Linked to this are the roles played by drug and terrorist networks and the entanglement of all these to pursue

destabilising agendas on the continent and elsewhere.

In places like Sierra Leone, DRC and Angola, PMCs have played a key and important role in protecting diamond resources from rebel bands and illegal diamantaires roaming effectively on un-administered land. However, the

"In places like Sierra Leone, DRC and Angola, PMCs have played a key and important role in protecting diamond resources from rebel bands and illegal diamantaires roaming effectively on un-administered land."

security requirements needed to secure operational and residential infrastructure for professional workers and technicians working in remote terrain, should be the direct responsibility of governments. In reality, PMCs are used in the absence of proper law enforcement agencies to secure such investment interests, but in the long run it is not ideal given the perception that such entities are needed precisely because of the failure of state organs to provide effective security conditions to secure such investments.

The absence of such security services, leads to the temptation by non-statutory forces (pirates, rebels, disaffected military formations, terror and drug networks) to intervene and either interdict such resources or establish parallel extraction routes, sometimes in collusion with corrupt state structures.

Importantly, Zimbabwe faced a potentially chaotic situation arising in its newly discovered diamond fields, and responded by moving its troops into Marange to forestall the possibility of general anarchy emerging. It was a pre-emptive move to ensure the state maintained control over diamond sales and potential revenues accrued from taxes – and avoid illegal diamond buying undermining key aspects of the Kimberley Process.

By October 2008, government deployed its armed forces, under Operation Hakudzokwe (No Return) to forcibly remove over 30 000 illegal artisanal miners, traders and hawkers from the country back to neighbouring Mozambique, South Africa, Nigeria, Lebanon, India, Pakistan, Belgium, United Arab Emirates and even Equatorial Guinea.

Only since clearing Marange of the illegal miners and traders, has the country been able to put into place commercially viable enterprises to begin working the area. One example, is the Russian Company OZGEO which since 2007 has been working in partnership with the Development Trust of Zimbabwe (DTZ) in Penhalonga and in 2009, opened a diamond mine in Chimanimani. The Company employs 40 Russian technical and professional miners as well as 400 Zimbabweans.

Allegations, of course, have been made of human rights violations committed by troops against illegal miners and the questionable role being played by military elements linked to Zimbabwe's defence establishment in mining diamonds.

THE NEED FOR GREATER COLLABORATIVE EFFORTS

The issue here, however, is the need for a new look at security arrangements to secure SADC's resources in a more manageable and sustainable way. More lateral thinking is needed on the issue. One example, is the greater need for airborne patrols. While a significant operational expense, the use of UAVs to monitor the flow of illegal diamond movements between Zimbabwe and Mozambique, illegal fishing off the coastlines and incursions of pirates or other unauthorized shipping in sensitive oil and gas producing regions, could be considered. Greater collaboration is also needed between SADC's military and police forces to ensure more effective policing and control over strategically sensitive areas.

Linked to this is possibly the need for greater collaboration between the SADC intelligence services to more effectively coordinate actions against illegal resource extraction – i.e. coltan and cobalt (DRC), diamonds (Zimbabwe, SA, Namibia, Angola and Botswana) platinum (SA and Zimbabwe) and uranium (Namibia), as well as to more effectively monitor large offshore concessions being worked by foreign multinationals for hydrocarbons.

The region's resources have automatically pushed up the area as a strategic node of critically needed raw materials for not just the West but the expanding economies in the east (China, India and South Korea) whose key engagement strategy with Africa and SADC is to secure resource supplies at source. The modus operandi employed by such countries in their pursuit of resources

has strategic implications for the economic well being of the region. The BRIC factor brings with it possibilities but also strategic challenges for the region as unorthodox economic means are used to secure resources. The threat of resource competition between big foreign powers may have a destabilizing impact on SADC's well being.

Such issues cannot be ignored and need to be looked at in conjunction with the growing naval competition in



GOVERNMENT OF GHANA

“In short, the old Ghanaian Armed Forces, previously willingly dispersed to United Nations Peacekeeping missions worldwide is now back home with a mission - concerned with providing a near tranquil environment for the new oil industry in support of creating a prosperous society.”

the Indian Ocean between India and China as both strive to acquire a blue water capability, the ongoing threat of war in the Gulf of Aden and ongoing attempts by AFRICOM to consolidate its influence in Africa.

SADC needs to forestall the possibility of foreign naval intervention in offshore areas to protect foreign assets (oil and gas extraction equipment) against pirates, rebel attacks, terror groupings etc. by providing effective naval protection services for such assets and when appropriate consider joint manoeuvres to effect such protection if required.

THE GHANAIAN EXAMPLE

Have such challenges been confronted by other African countries, and dealt with using a model which SADC might consider? In 2007 a US based company Kosmos Energy discovered 1,8 billion barrels of crude oil, off the Ghanaian coast in a place now known as the Jubilee Oil Field. Three years later, Ghana entered the club of oil exporters amidst the transformation of its defence forces: whose flagship is now the newly equipped Ghanaian Naval Service (GNS).

The acquisition of new naval vessels was the first serious restructuring and re-equipment of the Ghana Armed Forces in 32 years. To this end, four new maritime vessels were speedily ordered and received from China and given names of the country's most deadly snakes. These are the Ghana Navy Ship (GNS)

Blika (Blika is a Ga-Dangme word for cobra), the GNS Garinga (a Dagbani word for the venomous viper), the GNS Chemle (an Ahanta word for the black mamba, the longest venomous snake in Africa), and the GNS Ehwor

(an Ewe word for the python.)

Significantly, these entered into service to coincide with the first commercial crude sales, tasked to police Ghana's international 280 nautical miles economic free zone against increasing incidents of piracy and other related maritime crimes. In President A. Mills' opinion, in undertaking the urgent maritime restructuring, "the country had no option but to equip the Navy to be able to guarantee a secure environment where all legitimate entities can operate freely without hindrance.

In support of the new assets acquired for the GNS, a flotilla of public and private helicopters and planes has also been put into place, not only to service the "oil-gangs" to and from the rigs, but also to provide aerial security. On the ground, new units with near-shore fast speed boats, surface and aerial radar installations have also been put into place, supported by a new and integrated public and private ports/harbour, maritime spares, repair and maintenance as well as engineering infrastructure. In short, the old Ghanaian Armed Forces, previously willingly dispersed to United Nations Peacekeeping missions worldwide is now back home with a mission - concerned with providing a near tranquil environment for the new oil industry in support of creating a prosperous society.

NEW STRATEGIC THINKING REQUIRED

The main argument of this paper is to:

- Raise awareness among SADC member countries that new mineral discoveries come with new security implications;
- Stress that the introduction of "world class resource innovations" urgently require the support of equally world class security structures;
- Demonstrate that the drivers behind the demand for a world class secure environment are not only based in the countries affected or the SADC region itself but those beyond the region making long-term investments;
- Show that these considerations go way beyond local borders, to include the serious investing countries and of course the key markets that must be assured of stable and predictable supplies before offering long-term contracts. For example, the leading natural gas consumers are South Korea and Japan with China and India still locked in consuming tons of coal in their evolving energy demands;
- Illustrate that the nature and context of responding to security around diamonds is different to that related to crude oil and even natural gas although there are areas of convergence;
- Ensure the transformation of the region's security forces to ensure a better integrated response with the region's private sector, for example, the Financial and Banking sector in fighting money laundering and corruption stemming from illegal mining deals;
- Inject into SADC's forward planning scenarios, new strategic thinking to take into account the new "resource reality" facing the region when considering future training and equipment needs so as to provide the necessary security and protection of this new environment for the betterment of ordinary citizens in southern Africa;
- Understand more clearly the expectations and security needs of both local and foreign investors around the integrity of their assets and the security of their working personnel and families;
- Highlight the Ghanaian case study, to show how a properly integrated public and private sector response to its new economic windfall is central to the new security challenges and strategies that emerge.

In conclusion, all such issues require closer consideration and might be better rooted in a new Natural Resources or Minerals Security Committee (MSC) established at SADC level. This new organ could look into these resource security considerations, as well as to provide some strategic guidance on how the sub-continent's resource riches could be used to leverage the region's economic and political interests and objectives in African and more importantly global forums.

By: Lt. Col (ret.) Dr Martin Rupiya and former Parachute Regiment Officer. Rupiya has a PhD in Military History (University of Zimbabwe-UZ), an MA in Strategic Studies (Kings' College London), BA Hons and Diploma in War & Strategic Studies (UZ). Currently the Executive Director of The African Public Policy and Research Institute (APPRI)

This is an extract of a longer research piece due for publication by the United Nations University (UNU) in Tokyo under the "Africa's Natural Resources: Conflict, Governance and Development Project".

PROFILES & APPOINTMENTS

MINISTER OF DEFENCE, NOSIVIWE NOLUTHANDO MAPISA-NQAKULA

Ms. Mapisa-Nqakula, former Minister of Correctional Services, has been appointed as Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, replacing Lindiwe Sisulu who has been moved to the Ministry of Public Service and Administration. The announcement was made on 12 June 2012 by President Jacob Zuma as part of a reshuffling of his cabinet. Ms. Mapisa-Nqakula is also President of the ANC Women's League, Deputy Chairperson of the ANC Political Committee in Parliament and a member of parliament.



Background

Ms. Mapisa-Nqakula was born on 13 November 1956. She matriculated from Mt. Arthur High School in the Eastern Cape, and obtained a diploma in primary school education from the Bensonvale Teacher College. She later received a diploma in Project Management from Canadian Universities Overseas Services.

Ms. Mapisa-Nqakula began teaching in 1978 at Bensonvale Junior Secondary School and later at St Matthews Teacher's Training College. She worked as a youth worker from 1981 to 1982 before accepting a position as Assistant Director at Masazane Open School.

In 1984 Ms. Mapisa-Nqakula became politically active and joined the African National Congress (ANC). In the same year she left South Africa to undergo military training in Angola and the Soviet Union. During this time she served as head of a commission tasked at investigating ANC MK desertions, reporting to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

In 1993 Ms. Mapisa-Nqakula became a member of the ANC National Executive Committee and was appointed Secretary-General of the ANC Women's League. She

served as a member of the Constitutional Assembly from 1994 to 1996 and was appointed Chief Whip of the ANC in 2001. In 2002 Ms. Mapisa-Nqakula was appointed as Deputy Minister of the Department of Home Affairs before being promoted to Minister in 2004. She was later appointed Minister of Correctional Services in 2009, where she served until her recent appointment as Minister of Defence and Military Veterans.

Political Orientation and Influence

A qualified teacher, Mapisa-Nqakula started her political career as a founding member of the East London Domestic Workers' Association in 1982 before leaving the country in 1984 to undergo military training in Angola and the Soviet Union. After completion of

her training she served in various ANC political and military structures. She also served as the Head of a Commission set up to investigate desertions of ANC MK members to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Angola (1984).

Her husband Charles, a one time member of the SACP Central Committee was the Chairperson of the Regional Politico-Military Committee (RPMC) of the ANC in Lesotho from 1985-1990.

Nosiviwe returned to South Africa in 1990 to help the movement rebuild its structures, and was elected ANC Women's League Organiser in 1991. In 1993, she was elected Secretary General of the League and then in 2003 President of the ANCWL. She also served on the ANC National Executive, was Chief Whip briefly and has been trusted with high-profile and organisational roles in the party since her earliest days in exile in the mid-1980s.

Perhaps most impressive is her ability to marshal political forces in her favour. When she came up against the League's Acting President and Umkhonto weSizwe veteran Thandi Modise for the presidency vacated by Winnie Madikizela-

Mandela in 2003, Nosiviwe not only won but trounced her more fancied opponent. She did it, some say, by securing the formidable backing of Madikizela-Mandela.

Mapisa-Nqakula was one of Mbeki's most loyal supporters. In 1999, she survived an alleged assassination attempt when, returning from the airport, the car in which she was travelling was ambushed outside the Nqakula family home in Johannesburg. Her driver managed to drive away. One of the hijackers who were arrested admitted that the mission was not a car-hijacking, but an assassination attempt. [Note: In 1999, she led an Mbeki investigation into the conduct of ANC leaders in Mpumalanga and produced a report which led to the sacking of former Premier Mathews Phosa.]

She lobbied unsuccessfully for Mbeki's third term as party President and was the only ANC MP not to vote in favour of a resolution providing that Mbeki's resignation was effective immediately.

General Observations

While Mapisa-Nqakula was expected not to survive politically as a close associate of Thabo Mbeki, she had inherited a Department left in dire straits by outgoing Minister, Ngconde Balfour. On the corollary, Mapisa-Nqakula has now inherited a revitalised Defence Ministry, which has seen significant improvements under outgoing Minister Sisulu, who just days before her reappointment had secured a defence trade agreement with Turkey, while the first major Defence Review in 14 years was in its final consultations. The loss of Minister Sisulu is a disappointment for the defence ministry of South Africa, as her achievements to this point had been remarkable.

APPOINTMENT OF NEW CHIEF OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN AIR FORCE, MAJOR GENERAL FABIAN ZIMPANDE MSIMANG WILL BECOME THE CAS

On 18 June 2012 the Chief of the South African National Defence Force (C SANDF), General Solly Shoke, announced the appointment of Major General Fabian Zimpane (Zakes) Msimang as the new Chief of the South Africa Air Force (C SAAF) with effect from 01 October 2012. Major General Msimang will take over Command of the South African Air Force from

Lieutenant General Carlo Gagiano, the longest serving Chief of the Air Force in the history of the SANDF. Lieutenant General Gagiano will retire on 30 September 2012.

For the next three and a half months, Major General Msimang will understudy Lieutenant General Gagiano as part of his preparation for taking over Command of the SAAF.

A member of the ANC's military wing Umkhonto weSizwe Msimang integrated into the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) in 1994 after the first Democratic Elections as a qualified pilot on the Mi 8 and Mi 25 helicopters. He received his flying training at Frunze 1 Central Officers Training Center-Kirghizstan, in the former Soviet Union from 1986 to 1991. During his career he has flown the Mi 8, Mi 25, Allouette III, Oryx helicopters and also did a conversion course on the A 109E at AgustaWestland in Italy.

As a member of the ANC's military wing he served as an MK combatant in Angola in 1986. After completing Zimbabwe's Junior and Staff Airforce Course in 1994, Msimang served as an operational pilot in both maritime and inland helicopter squadrons. In 2000, he was appointed as the Assistant Project Officer on Project Flange in Italy. This was an acquisition project of the Agusta A109 LUH which replaced the Allouette III helicopter. Msimang completed the Senior Staff Course at the Italian Air Force War School during his time in Italy, and after his return to South Africa in 2003 he completed the Joint Senior Command and Staff Programme at the South African War College.

After his completion of the programme he was appointed as Officer Commanding of the Helicopter Flying School at Air Force Base Bloemfontein. In 2005 he was appointed as Officer Commanding and promoted to the rank of Colonel.

In 2006, he completed the Executive National Security Programme at the South African National Defence College.

Msimang was later promoted to the rank of Brigadier General in 2007 and served in the Air Force Command as Director of Helicopter Systems in Pretoria. He has since been promoted to Major General as Chief Director: Air Policy and Plans, responsible for Air Force strategy, policies, capabilities and resource allocation.

He has a strong ANC political pedigree being the son of Mendi Msimang, the

ANC's former treasurer general (1997-2008) and SA's high commissioner to London (1994-1997).



BOOK REVIEWS

Reviews of African military literature

THE GUN – THE STORY OF THE AK-47

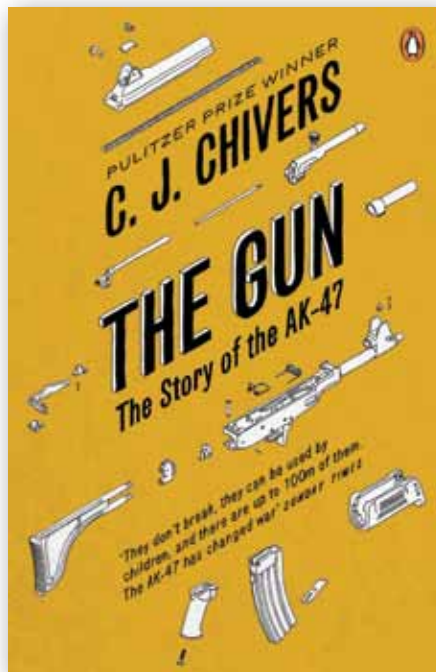
By C.J. Chivers

"This book focuses on the most important series of infantry small arms of our time, and as most commonly encountered in the field: the original AK-47 and its derivatives, knock offs, and companion firearms that have flooded armouries and arms bazaars around the world and become a primary weapon of guerrillas, terrorists, and many armed criminal gangs. It examines their origins, design, production, distribution, stockpiling, export, and use as one of the predominant tools of war of the past half century".

But this comprehensive coverage is not enough for Chivers – he goes further with his work and uses the AK-47 as a canvas to discuss the development of modern firearms in terms of their miniaturisation and simplification. He covers, in some depth, the history and development of automatic firearms in the 1800s and discusses the effect that these new machines had on the type of warfare that was being waged at the time.

We also learn more about the individuals responsible for these

developments – Dr. Richard Gatling and Hiram Maxim. Their endeavours to market their products to international governments introduce an insight into



modern day weapons salesmanship and the resistance to the introduction of machine guns that was inherent in colonial military powers. This section, although important in providing a context for the development of the AK-47, detracts somewhat from the

focus of the book due to the amount of space accorded to this background information.

The second section of the book

"The weapon was designed collectively, the culmination of work by many people over many years, and the result of a process in which Senior Sergeant Kalashnikov was near the centre in the mid and late 1940s."

deals with the invention and development of the AK-47. Chivers provides an extremely detailed and thorough account of the origins of the AK-47 assault rifle. He also shows the differences between the official Soviet version of the AK-47s origin

and the actual development of the AK-47. The Soviet's version had Senior Sergeant Mikhail Timofeyevich Kalashnikov, a World War II tank commander, designing the Avtomat Kalashnikova, the automatic by

repress freedom movements in East Germany and Czechoslovakia in 1953 and in Hungary in 1956.

Chivers deals not only with the development of the AK-47 but also with its proliferation. The AK-47 assault rifle was developed and mass produced under Stalin, but it was Khrushchev who ensured that the AK-47 would become the predominant weapon of choice for militaries, liberation organisations and terrorists across the globe. The contest between the East and the West for global domination provided the Soviets with an opportunity to distribute their arms as a form of

political currency. This distribution of military technology to its allies had the effect of increasing standardisation of weaponry amongst the Soviet allies and created a dependency on the Soviets for the resupply of weapons and ammunition.

What followed was decades of arms production and storage leading to surpluses of arms with no apparent use. More concerning is that there exists no comprehensive record of the actual numbers of material produced by the Eastern bloc. A lack of records combined with a lack of control and a need for hard cash in a post-Soviet Union market environment has led to the further distribution of tons of these surplus

arms to any state or organisation prepared to pay for them.

The final section of the book covers the attempts of the United States of America to catch up to the AK-47 with an assault rifle of their own. The unfortunate M-16 was pressed into service in Vietnam where its design and development faults were slowly and grudgingly attended to while the senior officers blamed the troops for not maintaining their rifles correctly. This situation extended to an official prohibition on mentioning M-16 malfunctions. "Newsmen were not to question soldiers about the weapon. No stories about the rifle jamming or malfunctioning were to be written."

This is a very well researched and presented document which really tells the greater story of the AK-47. Although not a well machined and finely engineered piece of equipment – the AK-47 and its variants are not renowned for their accuracy – it is a hardy tool of combat which is easy to use and reliable.

The sheer quantity of AK-47s produced and their availability

"The unfortunate M-16 was pressed into service in Vietnam where its design and development faults were slowly and grudgingly attended to while the senior officers blamed the troops for not maintaining their rifles correctly."

Kalashnikov, as an entrant in a secret weapons competition held after the end of the Great Patriotic War. The facts reflect a different story – "Any distillation that treats the AK-47 as a spontaneous invention, the epiphany of an unassuming but gifted sergeant at his workbench, misses the very nature of its origins as an idiosyncratic Soviet product. The weapon was designed collectively, the culmination of work by many people over many years, and the result of a process in which Senior Sergeant Kalashnikov was near the centre in the mid and late 1940s."

Strangely, this was an opportunity for the Soviets to laud the effectiveness of their Marxist system, but they chose to attribute the recognition for this development to an individual.

It is also interesting to see the first application of the AK-47, with its status as the weapon of choice for liberation, being implemented to

"This is a very well researched and presented document which really tells the greater story of the AK-47. Although not a well machined and finely engineered piece of equipment – the AK-47 and its variants are not renowned for their accuracy – it is a hardy tool of combat which is easy to use and reliable."

throughout the world has ensured the weapons presence in conflicts and terrorism for a long time to come. Chivers provides the reader with a quantity of detailed information which not only provides an interesting read but also serves as a remarkable reference work.

The only criticism I would raise would be the lack of information and credit given to the Germans for their role in the development of the assault rifle together with an intermediate cartridge. Mention is made of the presence of the German weapons designer Hugo Schmeisser in the Izhevsk Motor Plant No. 524, a Russian rifle production centre, during the period of the development of the AK-47 but his role there is not interrogated further. This book is definitely recommended to anyone with more than a passing interest in the AK-47 or in firearms in general.

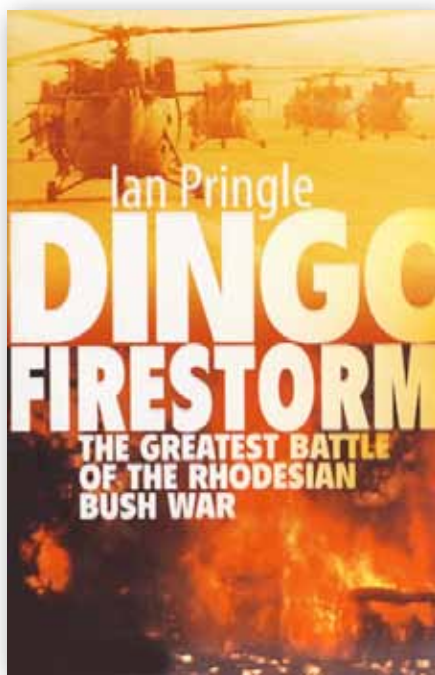
ABOUT THE AUTHOR

C. J. Chivers is a senior writer for the New York Times and its former Moscow Bureau Chief. He was an infantry officer in the US Marines from 1988 to 1994 and served in the First Gulf War. He is the recipient of numerous prizes, including a shared Pulitzer for International Reporting in 2009 for coverage of the war in Afghanistan. He has reported from many of the war-torn areas of the world. He lives with his family in Rhode Island.

DINGO FIRESTORM: THE GREATEST BATTLE OF THE RHODESIAN BUSH WAR

By Ian Pringle.

Zebra Press; (2012); 266 pp.



Touted in its subtitle as "The greatest battle of the Rhodesian Bush War" Dingo Firestorm by first time author, former Rhodesian Police Reserve Air Wing (PRAW) pilot Ian Pringle, and published by Zebra Press, is the latest in a rapidly increasing body of literature on the conflict. It is also the second book to appear dealing specifically with this particular operation over the past year, with JRT

Wood's Operation Dingo: Rhodesian Raid on Chimoio and Tembue, 1977 being the first (this itself being an extension of a chapter which first appeared two years previously in Wood's well-received Counterstrike from the Sky.)

Unlike Wood, whose excellent writing on the subject was somewhat limited by the Africa@War series format of 64 heavily illustrated pages, Pringle spends considerable time and energy setting the stage for the operation as well as examining the institutional culture of the Rhodesian

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security forces, especially the Rhodesian Air Force (RhAF). He states in his author's note that there is a strong aerial bias to the work. Given his background in aviation, this is hardly surprising. Particularly impressive is the litany of key personalities involved in the operation which Pringle has been able to track down and interview. While the author does tend to sell his flying and parachuting abilities they do undoubtedly contribute to his being better able to write about certain aspects of the operation. The opening two pages of the Hunter

strike is a gripping introduction that sets the pace for the remainder of the book.

As recounted in a previous review in these pages on Wood's Operation Dingo, the operation consisted of

"Operation Dingo was one of the largest external operations to be launched by the Rhodesians during the entire war."

two components. The first target, identified as Zulu 1, entailed an attack on New Farm (known as Chimoio) in Mozambique's Manica Province, whereas the second target, identified as Zulu 2, was to be an attack on Tembue Camp in Tete Province. The two assaults were to take place over a five-day period with New Farm being attacked first on 23 November and Tembue three days later on 26 November. Involving almost the entire RhAF and elements of the Rhodesian Light Infantry (RLI) and C Squadron Rhodesian SAS, Operation Dingo was one of the largest external operations to be launched by the Rhodesians during the entire war.

Key personnel interviewed range from General Peter Walls (now deceased) to the elusive Squadron Leader Richard Brand. Brand, a retired businessman in the US and relative of African aviation pioneer Sir Quinton Brand, achieved fame as the RhAF Hunter pilot who hit a dustbin with a single five round burst on the range in response to a challenge. The insights from these first-hand interviews

contribute much to the smooth flow and readability of the work as Pringle walks us through the various phases of both operations.

The work, structured into three parts, first looks at the background with the opening section, entitled "The Gathering Storm", orientating the reader both as to the circumstances behind the conflict and how this particular operation came about. The section consists of roughly half the book and provides much insight for both the specialist reader and the novice. Of particular interest is the brief account of how COMOPS (Combined Operations) was formed and how Walls received its stewardship. The section closes with an introduction to the commanders of Operation Dingo before being followed by the final briefing for the

"The book has numerous photographs seen here for the first time."

attack.

The second section - "Zulu 1: Chimoio" - focuses on the primary assault on Chimoio and the recovery of the ground forces after its completion, while the final section - "Zulu 2: Tembue" - deals with the attack on Tembue. The book has numerous photographs seen here for the first time. Among these are photographs of the current ZANLA War shrine at New Farm as well as a wall of remembrance listing all those killed in the attack. It is a staggering reminder of the death toll inflicted by the war.

Dingo Firestorm is a well written, well researched account of what occurred from the perspective of the Rhodesian security forces. This reviewer has no hesitation in recommending it. It would make a fine addition to Wood's earlier account on any bookshelf dealing with either the Second Chimurenga in general or Operation Dingo in particular.

AFRICA FLASHPOINTS

LIBYA

Sporadic incidents of fighting have broken out in Libya since the June 4th attack on Tripoli Airport. Starting with the 6 June bombing of the American Embassy East of Benghazi, which resulted in no deaths but has raised alarm bells for diplomatic security in what is meant to be an NTC stronghold in the East. It is unclear who was behind the bombing. In the town of Kufra, a group of Toubou tribesmen were allegedly attacked by security forces in an effort to 'exterminate' them. The security forces, however, claim that the tribesmen were attempting to break into a secure facility to steal vehicles. This occurred after the arrest of four International Criminal Court investigators, on allegations of spying.

NIGERIA

On 11 June suspected Boko Haram terrorists entered a church in Jos, killing one, and blowing up a suicide vehicle in another attack, injuring over 40 Nigerians. Although Boko Haram has not claimed responsibility for the attacks, the targeting of churches and usage of suicide bombers is a trademark tactic which they employ. Retaliations have already resulted in two dead, and will possibly continue through June.

SUDAN

There have been reports of fresh attacks during June in Sudan's North Kordofan State. Long considered the "forgotten Darfur", armed raiding parties associated with the Sudan People's Liberation Movement – North, have been battling state security forces in the region since April. Although there is no confirmation of casualties, there have been reports of hundreds of thousands of displaced Sudanese flooding out of North Kordofan.

BRIEFING ROOM

Defence events on Africa

Military Skills

Dates: 21-27 October

Potchefstroom, South Africa

The Annual Military Skills Competition is held by the South African Reserve Force Council. Supported by the Defence Reserves, the competition is open to all ranks, gender and ages. During the competition basic military skills are tested through the following disciplines:

- Rifle Shooting
- Pistol Shooting
- Water Obstacle Crossing
- Hand Grenade Throwing
- Cross Country Running

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AFRICAN AIR CHIEFS CONFERENCE

Dates: August 2012

Washington DC

This conference, in support of US Air Forces in Europe (USAFE), will bring together the leaders of African Air Forces to discuss and strategize means for increasing capacity of the continent's air forces and improve air domain awareness, control and security.

Audience: Chiefs of Africa Air Forces, senior USAFE and HQ US Air Force officials.

Contact: Africa Center Main Headquarters
Phone: +1 202 685-7300, Fax: +1 202 685-3210

MCSA – Maritime & Coastal Security Africa

Dates: 8 - 9 November 2012

Cape Town, South Africa

MCSA will host a series of speakers and panels surrounding major maritime security issues in Africa, particularly that of Piracy in the Gulf of Aden and West Africa, and the problem of maritime security capability amongst littoral nations.

Contact: +27 21 700 3500

MARITIME SAFETY AND SECURITY (MSS) SEMINAR WEST AFRICA

Dates: September 2012

West Africa (TBC)

This programme builds on the All-Africa Maritime Safety and Security Seminar held in Tanzania in 2010 and focuses on national and regional approaches to develop and implement maritime security strategies in the ECOWAS region. It will be attended by African officials with maritime portfolios joined by US and European Union maritime experts.

Contact: Washington DC: +1 202 685 7300 Ethiopia: +251 115 174 203 Senegal: +221 33 860 61 67

LETTERS

DEAR AAF,

The recent article in a prominent South African online news site by Mandy de Waal, and her subsequent retreat in a follow-up article, raises some interesting problems on writing about defence and military matters in South Africa.

The SADF and SANDF are both highly-contentious subjects, whether it is a case of the post-apartheid treatment of 32 Battalion veterans or a former SADF "talk", like in de Waal's piece, writing in a cavalier fashion on events occurring during the war in Angola.

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All of these topics are guaranteed to elicit a spirited response from one faction or another of the former armed forces, whether they are white, black, Angolan, South Africa, SADF or MK. The reactions are always vociferous and outspoken, and the smallest error is torn to pieces.

The solution is not to simply relegate writing on defence matters to the his-

torians, but rather to ensure the core components of an article, argument, or essay is well-researched and proofed by an individual with the necessary experience. A cursory draft sent to the South African Infantry Association, for example, would likely have smoothed over a lot of the initial problems with de Waal's piece (and many others written by the main stream media before).

Writing on South African military history is about as dangerous as navigating a minefield, and those wishing to do either would do well to strongly consider whether they are prepared for the inevitable backlash.

JOHANNESBURG

DEAR AAF,

The Draft Defence Review from our Department of Defence is a strong step forward in conceptualising our armed forces' role in Africa. Although many criticisms have been levelled at the Defence Review Committee, they ought to be commended on an overall job well done. I had the luck to attend one of the consultation sessions arranged by the Review Committee with the public and had a few observations:

Firstly, it seems that the public, generally-speaking, still maintain a high level of misunderstanding as to the structure and purpose of the SANDF. This is not their fault, but at the same time providing some manner of "idiot's guide to the military" could serve the Committee well in explaining the more pertinent parts of the draft review.

Secondly, the review seems startlingly silent on the issue of just where the financing will come from for a military as large and intricate as laid out in the paper's pages. There is no plan B,

as it were, for a military that does not get the funding it needs to fulfil these enormous requirements. Certainly the current 1.12% of GDP allocation is not enough, and that was made clear in the review early on, but what then of the future? Hopefully Minister Sisulu has an ace up her sleeve to match the budget with the requirements.

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Finally, the review, no matter how well-done, will face scrutiny in how it matches up with other government papers, such as the obscure foreign policy white paper loosely oriented on 'ubuntu', the South African Development Partnership Agency (SAPDA) – itself a nebulous and hard-to-find document – as well as the overall industry plan from the Department of Trade and Industry. Matching the comparatively-lucid and coherent Defence Review with these documents is impossible, but is something that will be demanded.

R. WHITE
CAPE TOWN

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the journal are welcome.

Please ensure that all letters are no longer than 350 words and contain the original author's name.

All letters can be emailed to info@aafjournal.co.za.

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