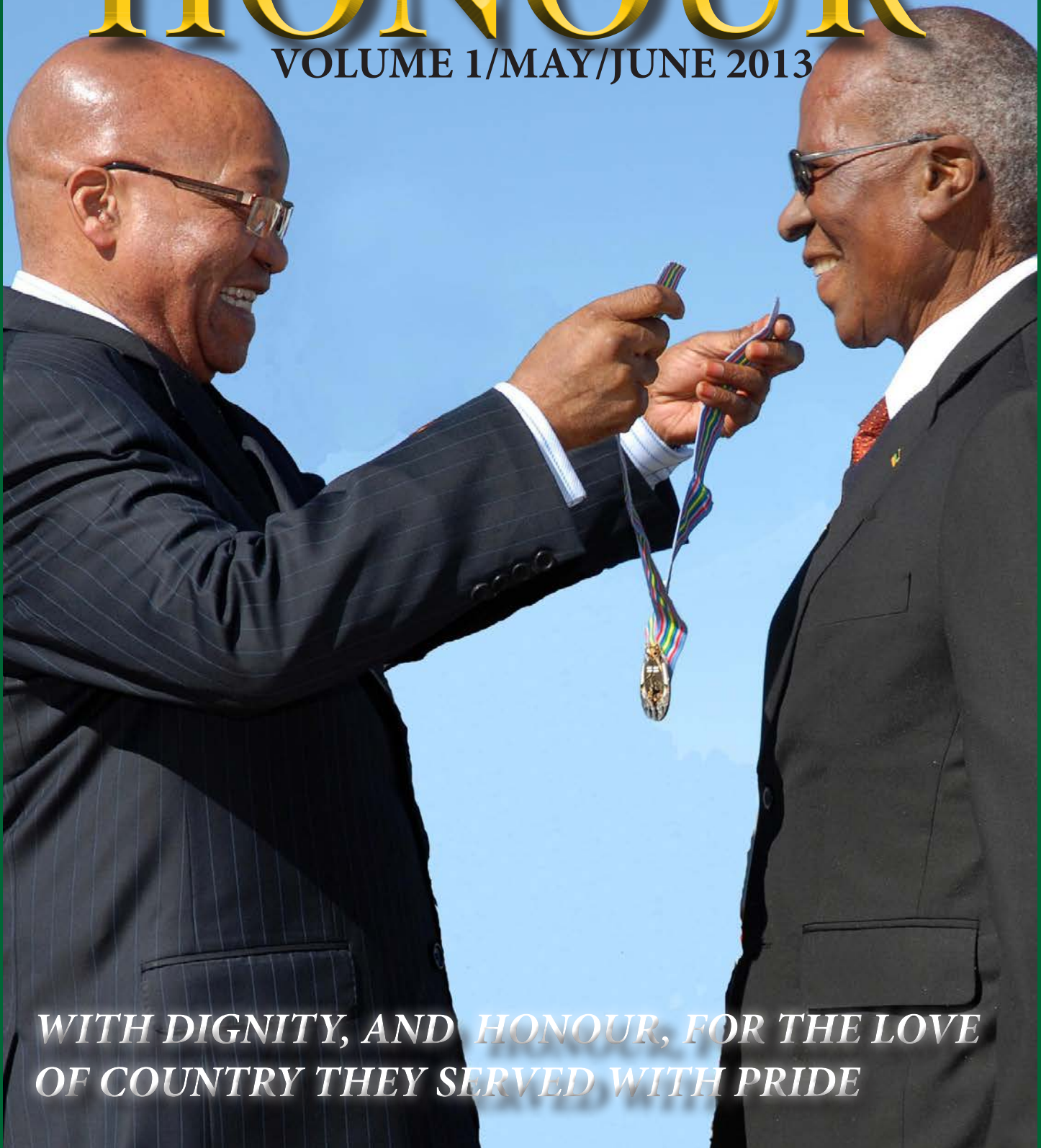


HONOUR

VOLUME 1/MAY/JUNE 2013



*WITH DIGNITY, AND HONOUR, FOR THE LOVE
OF COUNTRY THEY SERVED WITH PRIDE*



military veterans

Department:
Military Veterans
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA



Department of Military Veterans



Vision

A dignified, unified, empowered and self-sufficient military veterans' community.

Mission

To facilitate delivery and coordinate all activities that recognises and entrench the restoration of dignity and appreciation of the contribution of Military Veterans to our freedom and nation building.

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Honour 1st Edition

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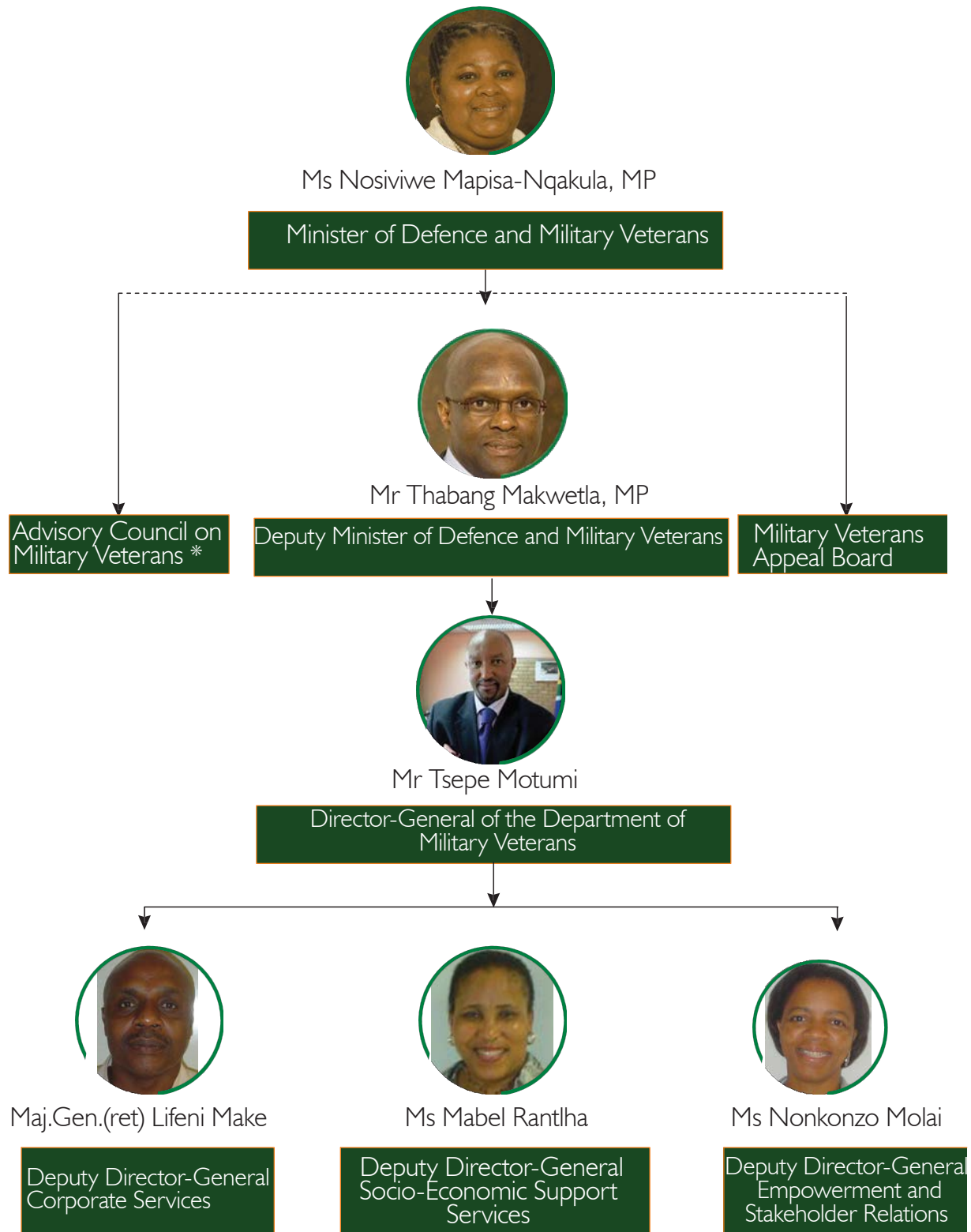
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SOUTH AFRICAN MILITARY VETERANS



Department of Military Veterans Macro Organisational Structure





Mr Mbulelo Musi

With great excitement we bring to you the military veterans community, the government, business, labour, civil society, the nation and not least the world, the first edition of the newsletter for the Department of Military Veterans named HONOUR. We have therefore named this first newsletter to honour you and all those who defied all odds including death, many years of incarceration, torture, exile, and banishment, so that we may be free.

HONOUR also seeks to give meaning to what the Constitution of the land enjoins all of our society to recognise the injustices of the past and to honour those who helped bring about democracy and nation building. Our military veterans deserve exactly that!

HONOUR could not have come out at a very special moment in the history of military veterans and the DMV. It is born against the backdrop of the Budget Vote 22 which was delivered at Parliament, Cape Town on 23rd May 2013. The Minister and Deputy Minister (DM) of Defence and Military Veterans, the Honourable Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula and Thabang Makwetla respectively announced that a budget of R351 million has been allocated from the national fiscus to the DMV, for the financial year 2013/14. Of that, R300 million will be utilised for the roll out of the social and economic benefits as stipulated in Section 5 of the Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011, whilst R51 million will be utilised for creating an enabling policy and legislative environment as well as building the capacity of the DMV to deliver effectively and efficiently to military veterans and their dependants.

The Director General of the DMV and the officials are now hard at work to ensure that the policies and systems as required by the National Treasury Regulations are indeed speedily put in place so that the money can be transferred soonest from National Treasury to the DMV. That transfer will indeed go a long way in enabling the DMV to roll out the long awaited benefits to the Military Veterans.

Addressing the meeting of the National Executive Committee of the South African National Military Veterans Associations (SANMVA), held in Birchwood Hotel at Ekurhuleni, Gauteng, from the 6th – 8th June 2013, the DM Thabang Makwetla urged all military veterans Associations, SANMVA, the government, the business fraternity, labour, civil society and communities at large to work closely with the DMV to ensure accelerated delivery of the benefits outlined in the Act.

In both text and picture, this first edition of HONOUR endeavours to inform you of amongs others the successful three medals parades held for military veterans on 2nd August, 27th October and 6th December 2012. It tells of the DMV to develop a credible database efforts to advance youth development. It provides insights to the verification and database process that seeks to put in place a credible database for military veterans in order to ensure that all bona fide military veterans are on the one hand registered so that they can have easy access to the benefit, and help prevent fraud and corruption on the other. HONOUR calls upon all of society to **Work Together to Honour, Restore Dignity and Empower Military Veterans for Nation Building**. Your comments and contributions will be most welcome. *See you in August!!*

HONOUR would like to first and foremost join the nation and the world in wishing Nelson Rolihlahla “Madiba” Mandela to get well soon. As the first President and founder of our non-sexist, non-racial and democratic society on 27th April 1994; as an international icon; as the first Commander in Chief of the Military Veterans formation uMkhonto we Sizwe (MK) on 16th December 1961; as a military veteran yet to be honoured by the DMV with the highest medal, the Platinum Class I, for distinguished, visionary and courageous leadership; we as the military veterans put you in our individual and collective prayers every second and minute wishing and praying that you recover speedily. We love you Madiba!!



Dr Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela

Hon Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula Calls for building of capacity of DMV to deliver



We will continue to give attention to Government's commitment to improve the lives of our military veterans. As part of this, I have decided to appoint an intervention support team to assist the DMV in creating the systems required to effectively roll out the socio-economic benefits for our veterans.

These systems are urgently required given the fact that an amount of R300 million has been provided for socio-economic benefits for this financial year. The Deputy Minister will elaborate further on matters affecting military veterans.

Let me assure Honourable Members and fellow South Africans that despite the challenges of the moment, we will never allow our defence capabilities so essential to the protection of our country to be eroded. In order to achieve this we need the support of all South Africans including those sitting in this House.

Deputy Minister Thabang Makwetla Urges for Acceleration of delivery to Military Veterans

Our Budget debate signals the commencement of the hardest push to deliver on this mandate as we enter the home straight towards the finishing line of a tough but fulfilling race which commenced four years ago. Before I proceed with my remarks, it behooves me to pause and pay my respects, once again, to the memory of several of our soldiers who fell in the line of duty during the year under review, not forgetting their families.

Their pain and sacrifice is a reminder to us to treat our duties with respect and soldier on in the service of our country, our people and progressive humanity. We enter the last year of programmatic work in government as a Ministry buoyed up by the confidence that we now stand on solid ground to realize this important goal of restoring dignity to a segment of South Africans who served their country with honour at a great cost to their individual lives as soldiers, for the good of us all.



Our Constitution enjoins all of us to: "Recognise the injustices of the past; Honour those who suffered for justice and freedom in our land, Respect those who have worked to build and develop our country." The 1994 Reconstruction and Development Program further stated that: "No political democracy can survive and flourish if the masses of our people remain in poverty without tangible prospects of a better life. Attacking poverty and deprivation must therefore be the first priority of the democratic government." In spite of the drag of cynics and obstructionists of different persuasions, who among others sort to trivialise a significant policy intervention of this magnitude, by suggesting that it was financially ill-conceived, and only aimed at serving the narrow interests of some within the ruling party, it is good that we have all now arrived at the mountain top together today.

The Department of Military Veterans (DMV) is steadily growing. It has started the process of establishing provincial offices and structuring its relationship with the other tiers of government involved in caring for military veterans viz, the provincial governments and local government. MOUs have been signed with some of the Social Development Cluster component Departments nationally. The DMV was able to double the number of military veterans who are accessing free health services. Over 4,000 military veterans are already receiving free health care. Close to a thousand of them have been issued with health care cards. This was subsequently put on hold due to the shortage of resources, and will be

continues on next page

resumed shortly.

The DMV has also commenced to provide burial support to military veterans who die destitute. The target of assisting a hundred (100) dependents with bursaries was achieved. Furthermore, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been signed with NSFAS in which the DMV will also serve as a conduit for deserving students. An MOU is also being negotiated with the Department of Basic Education. The Department has also signed an MOU with the Department of Human Settlement to build 519 houses for military veterans in this financial year, based on the budget the DMV will have at its disposal to top up the RDP grants military veterans will get.

Working with the Department of Water and Environmental Affairs, the DMV is in a process of placing 700 military veterans in jobs offered by Water Affairs in its labour intensive projects. The DMV has also concluded an MOU with the Department of Rural Development and Land Affairs which will offer business opportunities to military veterans in Rural Enterprise and Infrastructure Development Programs. Alongside the above interventions to improve the quality of life of military veterans, in the past financial year 2012/13, the DMV has on a significant scale commenced the program to bestow honour on military veterans, the living and those who are no more, to reclaim their space in our communities and our lives that they rightfully deserve. Three medals parade were staged in the course of last year, 2012, to honour the generation of participants in the armed- struggle against apartheid as part of the observance of the 50th Anniversary of Umkhonto We Sizwe. More such parades are planned in the near future to honour the remaining deserving Military Veterans from the none statutory forces.

Events

DG Calls for Unity of all Military Veterans

Article and photos by Ms B. Dimba

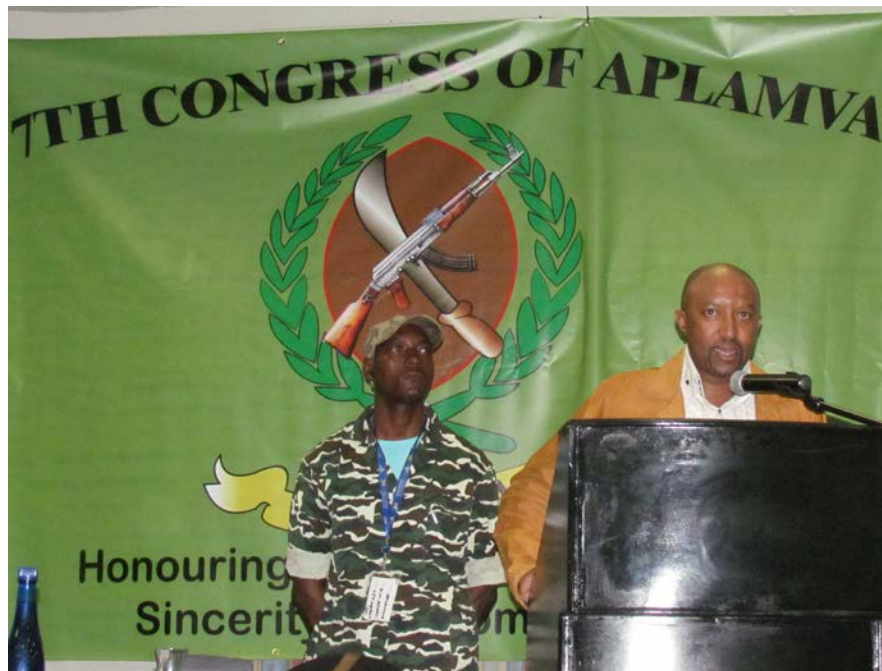
On Sunday 16 June 2013 (South Africa Youth Day) the DG of the DMV, Mr T. Motumi addressed the elective conference of APLAMVA in which he called for unity of all Military Veterans.

The APLAMVA conference was held at the Birchwood Hotel, Ekurhuleni over the weekend 15 -17 June 2013.

The conference was attended by 385 delegates of APLAMVA coming from all over the country. They were there to amongst others select a united leadership going forward.

The Chairperson of SANMVA, Mr K Maphatsoe spoke about the importance of communication and working together as they are headed towards the SANMVA conference scheduled for September 2013.

DG Motumi explained the role of the DMV and how it intends to support the military veterans in line with the Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011. The DG then interacted with



Director General Mr T. Motumi addresses the Azanian People's Liberation Army Military Veterans Association (APLAMVA) conference

the delegates on pertinent matters such as housing and health care services. With regard to housing, he stated that Military Veterans who already own houses do not qualify for housing allocation from the

DMV programme.

He also addressed the concern raised that some of the members had around the issue of not qualifying *continues on next page*



The Azanian People’s Liberation Army Military Veterans Association (APLAMVA) members singing Unity Songs

to be on the Military Veteran’s database and thus not qualifying for benefits. The main concern, from the members was that they are part of the reserve force but are never called up. Thus they are unemployed and are under age for retirement.

Another concern raised by the delegates related to the security of the medical cards and how safe the cards were from being cloned.

In conclusion the DG stated that the DMV’s mission was to facilitate delivery and coordinate all activities that recognise and entrench the restoration of dignity and appreciation of the immense contributions made by Military Veterans to the course of democracy, reconciliation and nation building.

Heroes Re-burial for fallen Military Veterans

Article by Pascalinah Skosana
Photos by Mpho Nkosi

On Saturday 15 June 2013 the Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans; Mr Thabang Makwetla addressed hundreds of mourners at the reburial ceremony of the late Abram Moroe, and Kunyamane Ranyaoa in Brakpan Ekurhuleni.

Both freedom fighters were from Tsakane, Brakpan. They were part of the ten former Umkhonto we Sizwe Military Veterans who fell at the battle of Mutale and Derdepoort in 1988. They were exhumed with the help of the Missing Persons Task Team (MPTT). The two families were previously mistakenly handed over the wrong remains of their sons by the MPTT. Later after the DNA testing was conducted the correct remains were discovered and handed over to the families so as to allow families to conduct a dignified reburial. A sore chapter was finally closed.

At the reburial the Deputy



Ranyaoa’s family and Moroe’s family

Minister delivered the message of condolence and support to both families. He also highlighted the role that the DMV plays in the re-burials, honouring and memorialisation programmes for Military Veterans. The Chairperson of MKMVA and President of SANMVA Mr K Maphatsoe also emphasised the need to honour the Military Veterans who fought for freedom and democracy.

Families thanked the government for all the support and efforts it gave in order to ensure that their sons’ remains were returned to them and given dignified funerals.



Deputy Minister Thabang Makwetla addresses mourners

The reburial service helped to ensure that the dedication of the fallen heroes of the liberation struggle remains indelible in the hearts and minds of many friends, families, and the nation as a whole. It also reminded all and sundry of the difficult conditions under which Military Veterans lived and perished for the freedom of the country. All the speakers praised the commitment, love for country and selflessness which these fallen Military Veterans exhibited.

One of the survivors of the battle of Mutale Mr Duma Mlambo (MP)
continues on next page

gave a detailed account of what transpired on the day of the battle particularly the heroic fight by the late Abram Moroe. Mr Mlambo's account on the ordeal has gone a long way in bringing about closure to his family. As one wise man said "Nothing heals better than the truth".

Struggle songs were the order of the day during the reburial, in celebration of those who have fallen.

The Director General Mr T. Motumi as well as other senior officials from the DMV also graced the occasion.

May their souls rest in peace!!!



(left to right) Deputy Minister Thabang Makwetla, Programme Director Tumi Mothotoane, Executive Mayor of Ekurhuleni Mondli Gungubele, and MMC Phelisa Nkunjana

Youth of June 16 1976 honoured with a lecture

Article and photos by Mpho Nkosi

Youth Month takes us back to June 16 1976, the day when the youth stood up and fought for a free and equal quality education for the young people of South Africa.

It is a moment for South Africans to embrace and remember the youth that sacrificed their lives for a free and better South Africa. On 15 June 2013 the City of Ekurhuleni held a memorial lecture which was presented by the Deputy Minister (DM) of Defence and Military Veterans to commemorate the 37th anniversary of the June 16 Uprisings. The purpose of the event was to allow government to interact with youth,



Gauteng MEC for Sports, Arts, Culture and Recreation, Lebogang Maile the Youth Activists addressing youth on 15 June 2013 at Ekurhuleni

offer guidance and to share ideas and experience that will help groom the youth for tomorrow.

The DM said "As we mark the 37th anniversary of the Students Uprisings of 1976 and the 20th anniversary of our constitutional democracy on April 2014,



Lebo Modise asking about Military Skills Development System (MSDS)

I feel singularly honoured because these milestones enjoin us to pause and make a thorough assessment of where we come from; where we are; and where we ought to go with a common consensus and purpose". In defining the youth the DM said " youth is a social force of any particular country, nation or society. It is a body of activism with the abundant levels of energy, enthusiasm and intellectual rigour. It is a potent

force at the disposal of any nation to either influence its future to prosperity or regress to underdevelopment".

"Through youth enthusiasm, a nation can work towards redeeming its future. The youth has the responsibility to be an active citizen that contributes consistently and meaningfully to address the challenges facing our society such as poverty, unemployment, and inequality; women and child abuse as well as drug abuse". further said the DM

"Youth has the duty to be patriotic and enhance patriotism to society. Therefore, there could not have been a better topic than the one I was asked to present on, because it probes the role of youth under democratic conditions where our human rights are guaranteed by law". Concluded the DM.



Deputy Minister Thabang Makwetla

The Deputy Minister of Defence and Military Veterans Thabang Makwetla, and the Director General of the Department of Military Veterans(DMV) Mr T Motumi Addressed the National Executive Committee(NEC) of the South African National Military Veterans Association(SANMVA)

Article and photos by Mpho Nkosi

The NEC of SANMVA held its meeting at the Birchwood Conference Centre on 8 June 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss amongst others how the Military Veterans Benefits stipulated in the Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011 will be rolled out to relevant members represented by SANMVA Associations. The meeting also deliberated on the conference of Military Veterans(MV's) due on 27 to 29 September 2013.

The meeting noted two significant aspects related to the conference scheduled for September. On one hand the term of the current NEC of SANMVA comes to an end in September. On the other Section 7 of the Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011 enjoins that "The Director-General must as soon as possible after the commencement of this Act establish a body which is to be an association representing military veterans'organisations nationally".

In his opening remarks the President of SANMVA Mr K Maphatsoe noted that there had been challenges between SANMVA and the DMV which were raised during previous meetings between the Ministry, the DMV, and SANMVA.

He however emphasised that "through engagements between SANMVA and the DMV, the challenges and problems that were confronted had been resolved". He stressed the need for SANMVA and the DMV to work closely in the delivery of benefits stipulated in the Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011.

SANMVA is the current umbrella body of recognised Military Veterans Associations. It represents most of Military Veterans who belonged to the former military formations. This includes MKMVA, APLAMVA, AZANLAMVA, Council for Military Veterans Organisations as well as former members of Transkei Defence Force, Bophuthatswana Defence Force, Venda Defence Force as well as the Ciskei Defence Force.

Addressing the NEC meeting the DM Mr Thabang Makwetla stated " It has been a challenge for the Ministry and government to look after the affairs of Military Veterans since there was no specific organisation that primarily dealt with the needs of military veterans. It is now the first time that a Department has been instituted to primarily deal with the needs of all Military Veterans in South Africa".

The DM further said that " the fact that SANMVA, the Ministry and DMV work hand in hand, reflects a good image and this will lead to successful attainment of the goals set out to provide socio-economic benefits to Military Veterans".

The DM also informed the SANMVA delegates that within the current Medium Term Expenditure Framework, the government has allocated R300 million for the financial year 2013/14; R504 million for the financial year 2014/15, and R606 million for the outer year 2015/16.

The DM further stated that the capacity of the DMV has been a challenge , and that challenge is currently being addressed. This will include the establishment of provincial offices of the DMV that will ensure easy access to the DMV by Military Veterans. He particularly singled out the poor communication capacity of the DMV with the Military Veterans as well as other stakeholders which needed to be addressed urgently. The DM then called on SANMVA to discuss:

- The establishment of an umbrella association for Military Veterans in line with Section 7 of the Act and the implications thereof.
- The critical issue of how the envisaged umbrella body would deal with Military Veterans who would emerge from the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) and would like to preserve their non partisan status as professional soldiers.



DM Thabang Makwetla addresses SANMVA NEC

He also urged SANMVA to reflect on those associations and individual Military Veterans who may not be interested in being members of SANMVA, and are entitled to socio-economic benefits stipulated in the Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011.

On his part the Director General of DMV Mr T Motumi presented to SANMVA how the benefits will be rolled out to Military Veterans. He then presented the structure of the DMV and how it operates. The DG said " the benefits will be rolled out in accordance with the Military Veterans Act 18, of 2011". Mr Motumi also outlined the perspective towards the envisaged conference scheduled in September to establish umbrella body and urged SANMVA to ensure proper preparations for that conference were undertaken in earnest.



Members of South African National Military Veterans Association (SANMVA)

Honouring and Memorialising Fallen Military Veterans



Coffins of Military Veterans who fought for freedom in South Africa and died in 1988

Article by Mpho Nkosi

It was indeed a sad moment for the families and the citizens of South Africa, but at the same time a moment to embrace the sacrifices made by the fallen heroes in the struggle for democracy.

The handing over ceremony of the remains of those who fell in Mutale and Derdepoort to the families was held in Pretoria at Freedom Park on 14 June 2013. The ceremony was held to acknowledge that the sacrifices of those who have fallen were not in vain. It was also a demonstration of the commitment of government to honour and memorialise those who helped bring about freedom and democracy in South Africa.

Distinguished guests from various sectors including the Deputy Minister(DM) of Defence and Military Veterans Thabang Makwetla and Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development Adries Nel were present. Both Deputy Ministers offered messages of condolences and support on behalf of government to the bereaved families of the fallen heroes. The ceremony helped to remind the families and South Africa(SA) as a whole that the fallen heroes have distinguished themselves optimally in making South Africa to be a Constitutional



Mr James "Gap" Segale survivor of the Battle of Mutale River in 1988

democracy.

DM Thabang Makwetla reassured the families as well as South Africans of the commitment of the DMV to deliver socio-economic benefits to Military Veterans.

These benefits included burial support, counseling, education, health and others stipulated in the Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011. The DM further mentioned that R300 million has been allocated to roll out the socio-economic benefits.

On his part DM Andries Nell recommitted to provide assistance to families through the Missing Persons Task Team(MPTT) as well as the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Unit of his Department.

Mr James Segale the survivor of the 1988 Battle of Mutale River, gave a harrowing account of what took place during that battle. He gave an account of the heroic fight that ended with the loss of former MK combatants Daniel Nkabinde, Oupa Wille, Abram Moroe and Siphso Nkosi who were among those whose remains were exhumed and

handed over to the families.

The Missing Persons Task Team (MPTT) has showed that it is committed to perform its mandate with limitless passion. Although there are challenges along the way, the MPTT continues to work hard in finding the missing military veterans. The hand over ceremony left an indelible mark in the annals of South African history, living generations to come with an extraordinary lesson of heroism demonstrated during the struggle of freedom.

This event enjoins South Africans from all walks of life to dare not forget that freedom and democracy came at a severe price. All therefore have a duty to put their shoulders on the wheel to honour and memorialise those who brought about this precious freedom in our country.

Verification process of Military Veterans in action



(Centre) Mr Alex Nthite of MKMVA during the verification

Article and photo by Ms Pascalinah Skosana

In line with the Military Veterans Act, 18 of 2011, the Department of Military Veterans (DMV) is responsible for collecting data and information regarding all Military Veterans(MV's) and their dependants and to establish a database thereof. That database is aimed at ensuring that socio-economic benefits

Continued on page 14

Honouring Military Veterans

Bloemfontein Airforce Base 02 August 2012, Waterkloof Airforce Base 2



President Jacob Zuma Addressing the MV's Medal Parade



Hon Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula, Deputy Minister Thabang Makwetla, Chief of SANDF General S Shoke, and the Secretary of Defence Mr S Gulube

Article by Mr Mpho Nkosi

Photos by GCIS

2012 Military Veterans Medal Parades

In 2012 three parades were held to bestow medals to the first uMkhonto we Sizwe(MK) Military Veterans, the Luthuli Detachment. The initial medal parade was held in Bloemfontein Airforce Base on 02 August 2012, to celebrate the

45th anniversary of the Wankie/Sipolilo campaign; the second in Waterkloof Airforce Base (WAFB) on 27 October 2012, to commemorate the 95th anniversary of the birth of the late OR Tambo; and the last at WAFB 6 December 2012. All these parades constituted part of celebrating the 50th anniversary of MK. These parades demonstrated a significant acknowledgement by government of the sacrifices made by Military Veterans in liberating South Africa.



South African Military Veterans reconnecting during the Medals Parade



President Jacob Zuma honouring Mr D. Goldberg with a Platinum Class II Medal

ans Through Medal Parades

Base 27 October 2012, and Waterkloof Airforce Base 06 December 2012



Mr Andrew Mlangeni Honouring President Jacob Zuma with a Platinum Class II Medal for distinguished leadership



President Jacob Zuma Honouring Ms Winnie Mandela with a Merit Gold Medal for exceptional service

Their courage and endurance led to the birth of a rainbow nation at peace with itself on 27 April 1994. Today the people can see one another as brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers who live together not segregated by race, sex or creed. These historic parades have placed Military Veterans in perpetual memory in the hearts and minds of all South Africans.

With honour we salute them!!

Working Together to Honour, Restore Dignity and Empower Military Veterans for Nation Building



President Jacob Zuma honouring Mr L. Dlamini with a Bravery Silver Medal



Defence Attaché s witnessing the parade

Verification process of Military Veterans in action. continued

are provided effectively and efficiently. The DMV is now busy with the process of cleaning up and consolidating the database. As at 25th of June 2013 the verification panel had approved 99 applications; with 12 pending; and 127 did not qualify as MV's.

The objective of verification is to develop a credible database that will help prevent fraud and corruption. The DMV has edged Military Veterans Associations to submit lists of applicants who had undergone preliminary verification to then appear at the National Military Veterans Verification Panel for final assessment. The panel is composed of five uniformed senior officers sourced from the Department of Defence and observers from MKMVA, APLAMVA and AZANLAMVA.

On the 01st of March 2013 the Director General of the DMV Mr Tsepe Motumi held a swearing-in ceremony to inaugurate the five panel members of the Department of Military Veterans Verification Panel; Major General (Ret) R.Z Manditha(Chairperson), Major General(Ret) E.M Mashoala, Col D.A Montsho, Lt Col A.B Kwankwa, Lt Col K.F Russie.

All the panel members signed a non-disclosure form committing to preside with integrity over the national verification process, conduct interviews, investigations and research ensuring that the outcome for both the applicant and the Department are credible.

In memory of OR Tambo

Born 27 October 1917 - Died 24 April 1993



**LEST WE FORGET
TRIBUTE BY ADVOCATE NANDI NTSALUBA**

**WE ARE HERE AS PRIVILEGED
WE ARE HERE AS BLESSED
WE ARE HERE AS SERVANTS
WE ARE HERE AS AMBASSADORS
WE ARE HERE AS HOPE
LEST WE FORGET**

**WE HAVE A COMMUNITY TO SERVE
WE HAVE DROPPING FACES TO TOUCH
WE HAVE HOPELESS PEOPLE TO HUG
WE HAVE FAITHLESS
PEOPLE TO CONVINC
LEST WE FORGET**

**WE ARE THE TRUSTED ONES, TO ENTRENCH THEIR DIGNITY
WE ARE THE FAITHFUL ONES, TO UNIFY THEM
WE ARE THE RESILIENT ONES, TO ASSIST THEM OPEN THEIR WINGS
AND FLY LIKE A DOVE
WE ARE THE GRATEFUL ONES, TO AFFIRM CITIZENS
APPRECIATION
WE ARE THE DEPENDABLE ONES, TO FLY THEM TO SELF RELIANCE
AND SELF SUFFICIENCE
THIS WE KNOW ALONG THE BORDERS OF MOZAMBIQUE
ALONG THE RIVER NILE
ALONG THE MOUNT KILIMANJARO
ALONG LAKE TANGANYIKA
LIE THE SOULS OF PEOPLE WHO MADE US WHO WE ARE**

**WE WILL REMEMBER AND HONOUR THEM
FOR THEY SACRIFICED TODAY
FOR US TO ENJOY THE TOMORROW
LEST WE FORGET**

**DAY IN AND DAY OUT
WE HAVE OUR CONSCIENCES HOUNDING US
REMINING US OF THOSE WE LEFT BEHIND
REMINING US OF THE FAMILIES WE OWE EXPLANATIONS TO
YES, WE WILL NOT REST, TILL WE ARE AT PEACE WITH OUR SOULS
THIS, WE WILL DO**

**AFRICA'S DREAM IS US
AND IN US AFRICA'S FUTURE IS US
AND IN US AFRICA'S HERITAGE IS US
AND IN US BECAUSE WE HOUSE THOSE WHO FORMED US, THE
DIGNIFIED MILITARY VETERANS
NO AMOUNT OF FRUSTRATION WILL DETRACT US
NO INTIMIDATION WILL DETER US
NO SABOTAGE WILL WIN OUR SOULS
WE WILL REMAIN FOCUSED
WE WILL BRIGHTEN THE LAMPS WHEREVER WE ARE
THIS IS THE AFRICAN DREAM
THIS IS WHO WE ARE
LEST WE FORGET**



Woman Military Veteran honoured.

Mme Ruth Mompoti, showed courage, character and visionary leadership in the struggle against Apartheid. She was involved in the Defiance Campaign in 1952; she was a founder member of the Federation of South African Women (FEDSAW) in 1954. She was one of the leaders of the Women’s March against pass laws on the 9th August 1956. She is the member of the Luthuli Detachment. She was among the recipients of the Platinum Class III medal for leadership on 2nd August 2012 in Bloemfontein.

“WITH DIGNITY, AND HONOUR, FOR THE LOVE OF COUNTRY THEY SERVED WITH PRIDE”.

Malibongwe!!

Military Veterans Act

The Military Veterans Act 18 of 2011 was promulgated into law by the State President, J.G Zuma in December 2011.

According to the Act, a Military Veteran is “a South African citizen who rendered military service to any of the military organizations, which were involved on all sides of South Africa’s liberation war from 1960 to 1994, those who served in the Union Defence Force before 1961, and those who became members of the South African National Defence Force after 1994, and completed his/ her military training and no longer performs military duties, and has not been dishonourably discharged from their respective military organizations”.

The Act aims to:

- Establish a framework for the implementation of the national policy and standards governing Military Veteran’s Affairs.
- Improve the quality of life of Military Veterans and their dependants so they may realize their socio-economic progress. In addition, Sec 5 of the Act places an obligation on the state to roll out the following services and benefits to Military Veterans and/or their dependants:
 - Compensation to Military Veterans who sustained disabling injuries or severe psychological and neuro-psychiatric trauma or who suffer from a terminal disease resulting from their participation in military activities;
 - Dedicated counselling and

treatment to Military Veterans who suffer from

- serious mental illness, post-traumatic stress disorder or related conditions;

- Honouring and memorialising fallen Military Veterans;
- Education, training and skills development;
- Facilitation of employment placement;
- Facilitation of or advice on business opportunities;
- Subsidisation or provisioning of public transport;
- Pension;
- Access to health care;
- Housing; and
- Burial support.

For more information contact 0800 201 063 or 012 339 5384

Working Together to Honour, Restore Dignity and Empower Military Veterans for Nation Building



Military Veterans listening to President Jacob Zuma at the Medals Parade held at Waterkloof Airforce Base on 27 October 2012

