

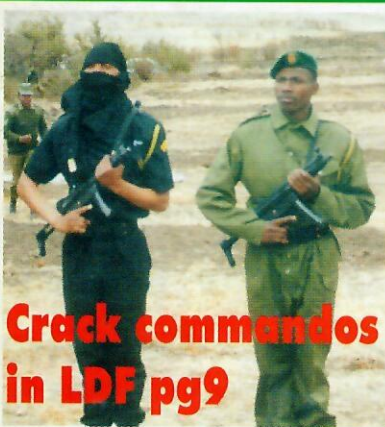
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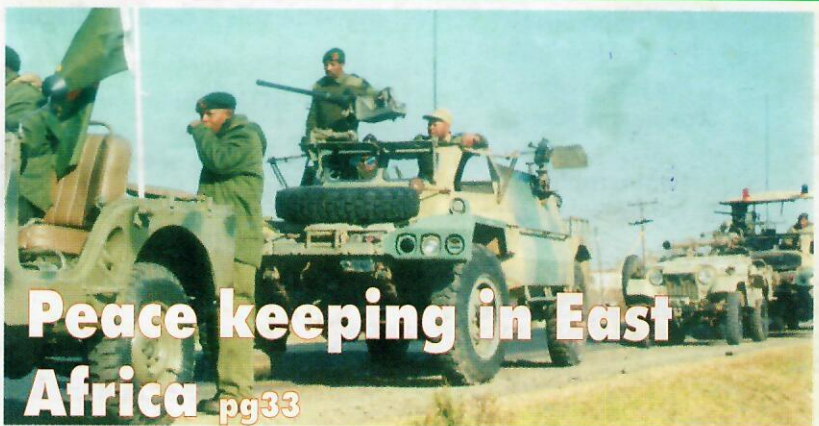
# MARA

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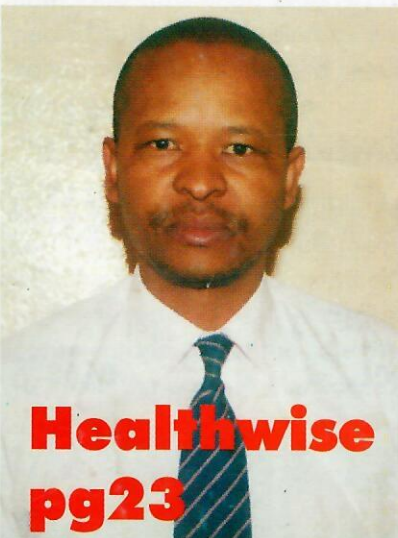


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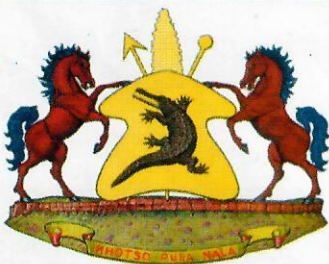
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# Contributing to democratic governance : the changing image of the Lesotho Defence Force.

**T**he nature, mandate and social responsibility of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF) require it to be above party politics. Indeed the armed forces' true mettle is judged by the extent to which they are prepared to go the extra mile in defence of the people's Constitution – the Supreme Law.

It is time to turn our backs against the sectarianism and myopia that have characterised our post-independence history particularly on the political front. Too often, we have tended to allow our egos and misguided personal ambitions to get the better of us and in the process national interests have more often than not taken a backstage.

As the army belongs to the nation, it must be seen to be serving the whole nation and not certain sections of the nation. To do otherwise would put a dent on its integrity and indeed undermine its credibility.

When the country is hit by disasters such as extremely heavy snowfalls especially in the mountain areas the army is expected to be in the vanguard of rescue operations. It is in the performance of this noble task that the pillars of democracy are underpinned. It is a well known fact that real development can only take place in a social environment in which justice, stability and security reigns.

As the country moves towards national general elections due next year, *ceteris paribus*, the army is expected to be on full alert to ensure that elections are conducted in a stable and secure environment. In fact more people will exercise their right to vote on the polling if they are assured of security.

LDF's personnel from its Public Affairs Office (PAO) have been attending several IEC meetings to keep up to date with the intentions and activities of IEC. In this connection members of the armed forces are being conscientised about the role they are expected to play to make the coming elections a success. ■

## The Chaplaincy in LDF



Major  
Thabo V. Mohapi

**I**s there God? This is what many people ask themselves.

Well, lets find out what the Bible says concerning this issue.

Psalem 53 Verses 1 and 2 read as follow:

"The fool has said in his heart, there is no God". They are corrupt, and have done abominable inequity, there are none who do well. God looks down from heaven upon the children of men to see if there are any who seek God!"

Theme: The Lord God Omnipotent.

The answer to the question is yes, there is God. He is the Lord God Omnipotent. He is the Lord God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is the Lord God creator of the Universe, etc.

Many people even some who claim to be Christians deny the existence of God and they do so for a number of reasons. There are those who simply do not believe; there are some who ascribe the glory of the creation to scientific phenomena; and there are others who, because they have deeply hurt, can no longer conceive love of God.

The apostle John make a point in his gospel when, in referring to Jesus he writes;

"He was in the beginning with God, all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made".

Consider those words and think deeply about their significance.

If there is no God and if science is responsible for the world then who controls the scientific process? If there is no God of love then who brings comfort and consolation to millions of broken hearts?

As you see the way in which peoples lives are changed,ves are changed,fected and their future taken care of; as you marvel at the beauty of nature and the wonders of the world; and as your heart is warmed by acts of love, mercy and compassion, who, and who other than a Loving Father God can be responsible for these miracles?

YES, THERE IS GOD; HE WAS THERE BEFORE, HE IS THERE NOW AND HE WILL BE THERE FOREVER MORE.

AMEN.

GOD BLESS YOU. ■

# MARA'S Beauties



▲ This is Bulelwa September from Borokhoaneng. She is one of this month's beauties of *Mara*. She is 22 years of age. Her hobbies are reading, socialising, watching movies and modelling.



▲ Malekanyane Lekanyane from Mapoteng. She is 22 years of age. Her hobbies are Playing Volleyball, reading, and listening to music.



▲ This is Ntsimane Mahase from Khubetsoana. She is 22 years of age. Her hobbies are reading, music and outdoor activities. Her ambition is to be a film producer.



▲ Sebopeho Makoloane from Borokhoaneng. She is one of this month's beauties of *Mara*. She is a student/part-time model. 21 years of age. Her hobbies are listening to music, modelling and watching TV

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# LDF receives a new super lifter



by Pte  
Tšepo Phaila

**T**he Managing Director of Eurocopter South Africa Mr Guenter Wissman last month handed over the first of the two BO105 LS Super Lifter helicopters to Lesotho Defence Force (LDF).

In his handing over remarks Mr Wissmann said the super-lifters are a new generation of BO105 CBS which have been made to suit the terrain and conditions under which LDF is operating. He congratulated LDF pilots and technicians for the professionalism they showed in handling the two decommissioned aircrafts.



Mr. Guenter Wissman of Eurocopter(South Africa) congratulates the commander-Ldf Lt Gen A M Mosakeng on the acquisition of a new helicopter. Pic by:- WOII S M Petje



The Commander -LDF Lt Gen A M Mosakeng (5<sup>th</sup> from right) seen receiving the New BO105 from Mr Guinter Wissmann of Eurocopter South Africa. Pic by:- WOII S M Petje

"We have not only had technical relations with LDF but we also had human relations, because we trained pilots and engineers for them and I am happy to say nothing has disturbed this relationship", he explained.

He also revealed that another helicopter will be handed over to Lesotho Defence Fore at the Mejametalana Air Base in the course of this month.

Speaking at the same occasion, the Commander of LDF Lt Gen Makhula Mosakeng said the occasion was auspicious in the history of mutual coopera-

tion between LDF and Eurocopter Company on the basis of strong continued customer support relations since the introduction of the first BO105 helicopters in the Mountain Kingdom.

"Performance analysis data depicts, a proven reliability with the reinforced structure and increase performance at high density altitudes with maximum payload. These unique capabilities vividly present a valuable asset to LDF to fulfill its missions cost effectively", the General said.

He further said the helicopter is an additional asset to LDF and Basotho Nation at large. General Mosakeng also stated that the utilization of the helicopter is extensively protracted for low intensity domestic operations amongst which are borderline crime prevention, Law enforcement and search and rescue missions.

"The acquisition programme encompassed the orientation and familiarization phases for pilots and technicians which have been conducted with great success at Eurocopter facilities in Germany and Canada respectively", the General observed.

Sergeant Motsei Khabele who is one of the technicians that had gone for familiarisation course in Canada said the super lifter has higher performance, power and speed as compared to BO105 CBS.

He said the super lifter has come with configurations, which the CBS did not have. He indicated that the super lifter has the winch; the cargo hook that can lift 200kg and can carry a load of 2600 kg inside.

"The aircraft also has an enunciator panel which indicates where there is a problem", the Sgt said. ■

# Brigadier Khololikane Sebjoe: Profile



By  
Pte Ntlele Ntoi

**T**he cap badges of the British Army and a newly acquired Dehradun Indian Military Academy poster are placed side-by-side with the portraits

of the heads of state and government in the Lesotho Defence Force Operations Office. A stern-faced senior army officer behind the desk is none other than the LDF Brigade Commander, Brigadier Khololikane Sebjoe (54).

"My office's primary role is to assist the commander facilitate all operations pertaining to the protection of the state, its citizens and key installations to mention but a few.

These include troops deployment along our borders and other places of public interest and vital strategic importance - the King's palace, state house, radio and television stations and transmitters". Brig Sebjoe explained.

Born and bred at Mpharane Ha Phala in the district of Maseru's Hoek, this former post office clerk joined the then Police Mobile Unit (PMU) in April, 1970.

"Actually, I could have been enlisted in 1967, but then the odds were heavily against me. On the day we were supposed to report ourselves at the Police Training Collage (PTC) in Maseru my journey was hampered by heavy rainfalls.

"Rivers were overflowed and therefore I could not get there on time. The then British interviewers were rather too harsh. I had an impression that they would not tolerate any late comers. So, I gave in", he regretted.

However, his devotion to peace and stability of fatherland Lesotho urged him to try his luck once more at an interview held in early 1970. He succeeded.

"In actual fact, I had always been an ardent admirer of army life", so he said. After his basic military training session Brig Sebjoe was posted in various sections within the PMU inclusive of the VIP protection section.

His discipline and selfless commitment earned him an early promotion in this



*Brigade Commander, Brigadier Khololikane Philip Sebjoe*  
Pic by:- Cpl P Samatla

profession. He was promoted to the rank of sergeant in 1978.

Soon afterwards Sebjoe took steps to upgrade his standard of education. He attended evening classes at a newly established high school in the army.

"Our classes resumed very soon after we had knocked off our daily duties. Our lessons lasted till 8:30pm late in the evening.

"Early in the next morning one was

expected to show up at the cleanliness parade as tidy as one could be - that was the norm", recalled the Brig.

Sebjoe said that it was not an easy task at all. He still bears heartfelt gratitude to his former teachers, Mrs Dorothy Molefe, Mr Harebatho Hlalele and others whose sacrificial effort helped add more to his knowledge and enlightenment.

From there Sebjoe underwent some specialized military training courses under the supervision of the British Army Training Team (BATT). These included Platoon Commanders course, Company Commanders course and Short Junior Command and Staff Course No.2 respectively.

The brigadier also holds a Diploma in Israeli Defence Force Commanders course.

"I also did Advanced Military Intelligence course in Pretoria, South Africa in 1991", Brig Sebjoe said.

Brig Sebjoe rose through the ranks to acquire the rank of major in July, 1991. He subsequently became the H-Company commander until 1995. "Thereafter, I assumed an administrative post at Makoanyane Military Hospital (MMH). That marked one of the most challenging episodes in my profession.

"The nursing staff at the MMH had grievances about their salary grades and other allowances as compared to their colleagues in other health centres. Services deteriorated due to lack of discipline some displayed as a result", Brig complained.

## Sebajoe

cont. from pg 6

Sebajoe took measures to get the situation under control. "I had to remind them that they had sworn an oath of loyalty to the LDF and therefore had to abide by the rules and regulations of this organisation", he said.

Brig. is hopeful that the LDF is heading for a brighter future. "

He further stated that the Basotho people are now becoming aware that the LDF does not owe allegiance to any political party.

"This is a national army; not anybody's property", he strongly emphasised.

Brig Sebajoe acting in his capacity as the LDF Brigade Commander was part of the delegation dispatched to India to pave way for the Indian Army Training Team (IATT) to come and help facilitate some specialised military training courses in the LDF.

"After BATT has left the country, we sat down and decided as to what needs be done to enhance professionalism in the LDF. We, however, opted for a rather distant nation which apparently has no interests to pursue here in Lesotho. India came up to be our best choice in this case. This is why they are here with us



Youthful Sebajoe posing for a photo next to a stylish music centre of those times Pic: Courtesy of M.T.RAMAKATANE

today", he smiled.

The Brigade Commander has no ambition of becoming the future LDF commander. "I appreciate my re-

tirement. You see, we have a mandate to restructure the LDF from the top to the bottom, so it could be wise to give way to younger officers to get this army there.

"I am happy that I have contributed a lot more of good things to the improvement of this defence force. I do not have to wait for the moment that I would go wrong - I really do appreciate my retirement", so he reiterated.

Brig Sebajoe solemnly promised that even after his retirement he will always be there to assist the LDF should the need arise. **Mara**



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# Outcry as drug peddlers target schools: the ticking time bomb



by WO II  
Ntele Masoetsa

**N**ineteen years old Evelyn Tsimbe (not her name) was a Form III student at 'Mabathoana High School, one of

the most prestigious schools in the capital Maseru, when her dreams of studying to become a teacher were shattered.

School children between fourteen and twenty years have become drug addicts. This situation has also resulted in massive dropouts at secondary and high school levels. "This problematic issue has been identified as one of the major contributory factors to the escalation of crime", asserts Ms Tsimbe.

Lesotho is emerging as one of the countries where illegal drug use especially at school level, is on the increase. This situation has prompted teachers, parents, youth organizations and people of goodwill to join forces to address the problem.

Evelyn, now a sales lady at an exclusive shoe shop in Maseru said she dropped out of school in 1999 after she and one Thabo her former school mate were spotted by the principal in the school's garden exchanging some suspiciously looking objects.

She said the principal called them to his office and was shocked to discover that in fact the two were exchanging money and performance enhancing anabolic steroids. The Police were immediately called in and the two were arrested, put before the courts of law and had to serve approximately two years in prison.

Evelyn said she has learned her lesson and said the lack of parental teacher guidance and care has con-

tributed immensely; "These days our parents and teachers do indulge in drug abuse and there is no one out there to discourage this unfortunate practice," asserted Evelyn.

Ms Tsimbe said she had always regarded Thabo, who was a prolific

*"These days our parents and teachers do indulge in drug abuse and there is no one out there to discourage this unfortunate practice;"*

soccer striker at school, as her role model, who could do wonders on the football pitch. She said Thabo had extra ordinary strength. Evelyn, one of the best defenders in the school netball team, also wanted to perform above her capabilities.

Evelyn said after she had been released from prison, she was regarded as an outcast by her community because no one believed her claim that

like committing suicide. My parents had disowned me because of the shame that had befallen our family", said Evelyn fighting tears from her eyes.

A highly rated nurse and qualified counselor of Community Alcohol Rehabilitation Programme (CARP) at Morija Scott Hospital, Mrs. 'Mamojaki Thoso, said her rehabilitation centre is very concerned about the alarming rate of school children who indulge in drugs.

Mrs. Thoso said one of the contributory factors is the mysterious manner in which drugs are obtained; "To my observation these days, unlawful drugs seem to be easily and cheaply obtainable", lamented Mrs. Thoso. She said this unfortunate practice has also baffled law enforcement agencies even though they are working around the clock to identify and arrest the perpetrators.

The counselor said only one teenage patient was rehabilitated last year at the centre in connection with the deadly substance. She said there is no medical prescription given to such patients,



*These beautiful looking children are drug peddlers' targets. Why are they being targeted? Pic by:- Pte M Maputha*

the whole incident was a set-up by the Police and the school principal.

"Life became so unpleasant that I felt

except various forms of counseling as well as conscientizing patients about the disadvantages and dangers of drug use.

cont. on pg 9



# Good military training is crucial for peace



by Pte  
Sakeng Lekola

The Commander of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF), Lieutenant General Makhula Mosakeng says military training is the best way to maintain peace and stability in the country.

When officially opening the basic Commando Course run by Indian instructors at Makoanyane Barracks recently, the General appealed to the participants to abide by the law and strictly observe rules and regulations that govern the LDF. "Do not listen to people who are not conver-

cont. on pg 10



The Commander LDF-Lt. Gen A.M. Mosakeng (camouflage jersey) listens attentively to the Indian Security Advisor to Lesotho Brig Gen J. Singh at the commando training course held at Makoanyane barracks. Pic by: Pte M Maputla

## drug peddlers

cont. from pg 8

Mrs. Thoso said the problem was more acute in the urban locations; "People in towns are prone to drug addiction because that is where life is very fast and things happen and eventually the continued use of illegal drugs results in the escalation of crime", lamented Mrs. Thoso. She said there is a need for government to promulgate tough laws or drug trafficking.

A rehabilitated drug addict, seventeen-year-old Ts'epo Rachoboko, now working as a petrol attendant said he was influenced into drugs by action movies in which he saw actors using the pills and subsequently engaging in dramatic violent actions. He said he was so fascinated by the actions that he believed the consumption of the pills induced bravery and swift movements in those who consume them.

He initially got involved in drugs after he was approached by a white motorist driving a vehicle with South African number plates. "The motorist asked me to fill-up his vehicle with petrol in exchange for the pill. Even though it was my first time to see them I felt tempted to try my luck", Thabo disclosed.

He said he was caught by undercover Police Officers who had been keeping an eye on the white suspect. He said he was sent to the Community Alcohol Rehabili-

tation programme Centre (CARP) at Morija Scott Hospital for six months, and came out fully rehabilitated. Thabo says he is now an anti-drug abuse activist.

The Prevention Programme Officer of Thaba-Bosiu Blue Cross Centre, which is also engaged in drug rehabilitation programme, Mrs. Mphonyane Mofokeng said illegal drug problem dates back a long time and has now become very common in secondary and high schools.

Mrs. Mofokeng said her centre is engaged in community awareness campaigns especially in the urban areas where the problem is causing high drop-out rates amongst school going children. "It is saddening to observe that parents and teachers are not aggressively containing this serious problem", lamented Mrs. Mofokeng.

She said they experienced a terrifying incident last year when a nine-year-old primary school student was brought to the centre by people of goodwill who felt duty bound to assist the young boy. Mrs. Mofokeng said the boy was an orphan looked after by his grandmother who could do nothing because she wasn't aware of the wayward behaviour of the boy.

Mrs. Mofokeng said her centre offers drug free treatment for all pa-

tients and conducts individual, family and group counseling. "We also offer occupational and social therapies and of course we have a remarkable track record of success," said Mrs. Mofokeng.

She said their target groups include youth organizations, chiefs, Village Development Committees, traditional healers, policy makers, members of parliament who are regularly briefed on developments in regard to preventative measures being undertaken by her centre. This is approached through seminars and workshops.

Statistics obtained from the centre indicate that from January 1997 to December 2000 there have been 168 admissions of patients 34 were re-admitted during this period and later discharged; they also indicate that 166 were male while 35 were female with ages ranging from twenty to thirty years.

Mrs. Mofokeng said they do not have social workers at district level that is why their patients have to come to Maseru for consultation. She said however the matters were being addressed. Most of them come from the eight districts with the exception of Mokhotlong and Qacha's Nek because it is expensive to travel such long distances", said Mrs. Mofokeng ■

### Good military training...

cont. from pg 9

sant with issues related to the military", he warned.

The General advised participants to work as a team and not as individuals. "I can assure you that on completion of this course, you will be proud of the knowledge, skills and techniques you will have acquired as your day to day duties will be accomplished with astonishing ease", he added.

He told the Indian instructors that he was confident the participants would do well. "They have been working hard in the past," General said. He suggested that more commando training courses were in the pipeline 'as the LDF must have a commando unit.

The Indian Security Advisor in the LDF Brigadier Jasbir Singh explained that half of the eight week course would cover physical and mental training while the other half would focus on specialised training in anti-hijack, hostage rescue, security of Very Important People (VIP) and other security related issues.

The Brigadier indicated that all over the world the commandos are the backbones of the armies. "They reflect the image of the army to the public," he said.

He warned the participants that the training would be tough and reminded them that 'when the tough gets going the going gets tough'.

The commandant in the LDF Training Wing (TW), Major Kopano

Thoola said he was pleased with the course which he said was the first of its kind to be held in the LDF. "As the course will not be easy, boys will be separated from men," he told the participants.

One of the participants Second Lieutenant Chere Makhetha, indicated that there is nothing impossible as long as a human being can do it. "A soldier must have the determination to succeed", he said.

The Second in command of LDF training Wing, Captain Posa Stemere revealed that all the participants had voluntarily applied for the course. Captain Stemere stated that there were 43 participants in the course, from the rank of Second Lieutenant to the rank of Private. "Most of them are aged below 35 years," he said. ■

# Lesotho wants a professional army

by WO II Ntele Maqoetsa

**T**he Minister in the Prime Minister's Office, Honourable Sefhiri Motanyane says the Lesotho Government is fully committed to the maintenance of a professional army supported by appropriate structures, policies and plans.

He was speaking at the official opening of a five days seminar on civil military relations held at the National Convention Centre on 20<sup>th</sup> August, 2001.

Minister Motanyane said Lesotho needs a well-trained, disciplined and affordable army. "As professional soldiers you have special expertise and technical competence which must from time to time be improved," said the Minister

Speaking at the same occasion, the American Charge 'D Affairs, Mr Daniel P. Bellgarde said civilians should perceive the military as a professional and apolitical institution that exists to uphold the Constitu-



Some of the LDF participants at the civil military relations seminar held in August 2001. From left to right: Capt. M. Lefa, Capt. T.Mothae and Lieut.M.Mohlahatsa. Pic by:- Pte T P Kharafu

*"As professional soldiers you have special expertise and technical competence which must from time to time be improved,"*

tion, "the role of the military is to defend the Constitutional order, not to subvert it", he pointed out em-

phatically.

Mr Bellgarde said his government wants Lesotho to be a stable, prosperous democracy so that all the potentialities of the Basotho nation can be given their full expression.

cont. on pg 11



2/Lt 'Mole' Kumalo

# My Viewpoint

**A**lmost in every country in the world, the army has been hailed as one of the most important arms of governments, primarily because since time immemorial it had become a norm for government to solve disputes through the barrel of the gun, instead of the mighty sword of a pen.

However, since the set up of the United Nations (UN) after the 2<sup>nd</sup> World War in 1945, men have strived to build and maintain peace throughout the world employing different initiatives, through, mainly the UN Peace-keeping Force. Different mechanisms have been employed; from mediation, sanctions, disarmament, and demilitarisation to mention but a few.

However in accessing this initiatives of preventing war or rather building peace in Africa, one may be forced to conclude that they were not that successful. One is forced to draw this conclusion, when taking into consideration the ever continuing wars which continue to rampage and drain Africa and its precious resources, mainly, human resources, land resources, mineral resources to give you just the tip of the ice bag.

Lesotho has been mandated with a task of "securing security" and building peace in the Southern part of the whole continent of Africa. This responsibility requires acute minds of the stakeholders in this issues who should deliberate on which path to follow in "Fixing Africa".

Is it time for Africans to soul heartily

commit themselves to solving all evils that their continent is faced with, or should Africans seek outside help to solve her seemingly intractable problems.

My point of view and which is a simple logic is the saying which goes... "another man's meat is another man's poison. Unless Africans adhere to solving their own problems, pulling itself out of this quagmire will always be like climbing Mt – Everest, or crossing Kalahari desert, whereas its only like just opening windows to see light and breath of fresh air.

This elephantic tasks mandated to Lesotho requires credibility, not only in the eyes of the nation, but also within the international community,

therefore the government of Lesotho needs to embark on a number of strategies in order to gain this credibility, among which should be the availability of very capable and professional army. In its quest to achieve the latter, Lesotho Defence Force has embarked on a series of courses for its

personnel which are provided by the Indian Army Training Team (IATT).

The IATT is well renowned for its efficiency, discipline and unmatched strength throughout the world. It is hoped that LDF will not only achieve credibility within the eyes of the International Community, but a very professional army, which all Basotho are proud of. ■

*Lesotho has been mandated with a task of "securing security" and building peace in the Southern part of the whole continent of Africa. This responsibility requires acute minds of the stakeholders in this issues who should deliberate on which path to follow in "Fixing Africa".*

## Professional army...

cont. from pg 10

40 Senior Officers of Lesotho Defence Force participated in the seminar. Other participants were drawn from various government departments, youth organisations, educational institutions, media personnel and political party leaders.

The purpose of the seminar was to identify the importance and the in-depth study on how civilian officials, legislators, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), the military and others can work together to resolve security issues as well as learning from other's experience.

One of the participants, Lieutenant Sekake Ramoseeka of Lesotho Defence Force said the seminar had been an eye opener as it had brightened and sharpened his mind. "It is my humble wish that similar interactions with fellow civilians in identifying areas of security concerns be held regularly," said

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*"It is my humble wish that similar interactions with fellow civilians in identifying areas of security concerns be held regularly,"*

---

Lieutenant Ramoseeka.

The seminar was facilitated by the African Regional Program Manager of the Centre for Civil Military Relations, retired Colonel Eugene Michael Mensch and Dr Letitia Lauson who is currently the Visiting Assistant Professor at the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey California where she teaches a various aspects of African Studies including history and economics.

This was the third seminar organised and sponsored by the Government of the United States of America. Others were held in 1995 and 1998. ■

# ISDSC to address safety and security in SADC

By Pte. Tšepo Phaila

**T**he Minister in the Prime Ministers office the Honourable Sephiri Motanyane urged leaders in the region to find ways and means of addressing the problems of safety and security in the SADC countries as a matter of urgency.

He said this when officially opening the Interstate Defence and security Committee (ISDSC) session on SADC Mutual Defence Pact and SADC Protocol on politics, defence and security cooperation held in Maseru recently.

The Minister said in the SADC region some areas are being affected by persistent civil wars and political instability which cause a great deal of misery and suffering to many. He referred to SADC Mutual Defence Pact and the SADC Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security cooperation as a testimony to the region commitment to peace and peaceful coexistence.

"I have no doubt that this meeting will carefully consider the most effective ways and means of setting up viable security architectural structures for our region. The people of Southern Africa are yearning for peace and better life which could only be achieved through rapid economic development in the region", the Minister asserted.

He said it is the task of the meeting to ensure that peace and stability prevail through out the region, because economic development cannot take place under civil wars and political instability.

The Principal Secretary in the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of Lesotho Mrs 'Mat'sepo Ramakoae when officially opening the official meeting said she was glad that the



A Minister in the Prime Minister's office the Hon. Sephiri Motanyane (centre) is seen with delegates from SADC countries at the SADC Mutual Defence Pact Meeting Pic by:- WO II S M Petje

support they were promised when taking over the chairmanship was bearing fruits.

"During the course of our deliberations, we are going to concentrate on the assignment that the 22<sup>nd</sup> session of ISDSC had assigned to us,

*"We would leave Maseru confident with the knowledge that what we would place before our leaders in August is a joint effort, collective undertaken by all our countries"*

that is to come with a draft mutual defence pact. The committee of six (6) member states will report their work, whereby all member states will have an opportunity to comment and make inputs before presenting the document to the ministers for consideration", the Secretary told the conference.

The Minister of Home Affairs of the Republic of Namibia the Honourable Theo Ben Gurirab said it is pleasing to note that in compliance with the

decision of the 22<sup>nd</sup> ISDSC ministerial meeting of May, the SADC Mutual Defence Pact is now ready for consideration by heads of states and government when they meet in Blantyre Malawi.

He expressed collective appreciation to the Kingdom of Swaziland that he said provided excellent leadership during the preparations and negotiations that had led to the successful conclusion of the document on SADC Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security.

"We would leave Maseru confident with the knowledge that what we would place before our leaders in August is a joint effort, collective undertaken by all our countries", he said.

He said they were building institutions and structures and adopting legal framework to govern their behaviour as states, and they would like to ensure that whatever they do is in tandem with the understanding that these countries have made as member states of the Organisation of Africa Union (OAU) and said he would be happy if that would extend to the newly born African Union (AU). ■



Capt T. Mothae

## The role of the military in democracy: a general perception

The Armed Forces of the world are facing a very serious challenge today. There are many questions which are not easy to answer. These are questions such as why countries need the military and exactly what their (military) role is in democratic societies.

Armed Forces exist for one main purpose of bringing force to bear, if necessary for external protection even though this is giving them a coercive power. If such power is misdirected, it could as well override all other important elements of society. Whilst there are debates on what the role of the armed forces in democracy is, and why do countries maintain these expensive institutions, the answer remains simple; that is, the armed forces are there to protect the territorial integrity and sovereignty as well as the National Interests of their respective countries.

Well, in some cases the armed forces are also charged with the responsibility to support Civil Au-

**Section 146 (1) says "there shall be a Defence Force for the maintenance of internal security and the Defence of Lesotho".**

thorities normally known as Secondary and/or Collateral roles. In this changing World Order, the armed forces are also charged with the responsibility to undertake Peacekeeping and/or Peace-Support Operations Sub-regionally and Internationally as that is an obligation for individual states who are members of international and

sub regional groupings.

Nevertheless, in democratic societies, nations seek both to optimise the protective values and minimise the coercive risks. This task is guided by five main factors:

- the role and legal status of the armed forces;
- arrangements for their control by elected governments;
- involvement in political activities;
- internal arrangements within the military and
- relationship with society as a whole.

### Role and legal status of the armed forces

The Constitution of Lesotho establishes the Defence Force for Lesotho and prescribes its primary role. Section 146 (1) says "there shall be a Defence Force for the maintenance of internal security and the Defence of Lesotho". This is not unusual in most defence forces around the globe since the end of Cold War in 1989-91.

It is expected that while the primary role of military forces concerns external security, in times of great difficulty, the state may have no alternative but to use this "powerful" resource internally.

..more in the next issue...

## Why Indian Army in Lesotho

The origin of the Indian Army goes back to the beginning of the British rule in India. During the last 250 years it has undergone many changes, accomplished many facts and fought countless battles at home and abroad on different continents of course for different reasons.

It is regarded as a unique organisation, vastly different in its ethics and traditions from other armies of the world, that are somehow politicized, but Indian Army is one of the few apolitical armies worldwide.

Moreover, Indian Army is known as an army of strong and deep-rooted ethics:

- The safety, honor and welfare of your country, comes first, always and every time.
- The honor, welfare and comfort of men you command.
- Your own case, comfort and safety come last always and every time. Over and above India itself has been a friend to African countries.

I know most of the people ask themselves why India Army. India Army has a good history both in training its Army and assisting other countries/armies. With regard to this matter Botswana Defence Force (BDF) is the typical example of this matter. Botswana is politically stable, the answer is simple BDF is immune from party politics unlike most African countries. It is the Indian Army that is to be given credit for shaping the BDF. BDF is Botswana's pride. I believe the Indian Army is here to pursue the same course in Lesotho Defence Force.

BY 2LT Phoka Nkeli

# His Majesty awards medals for distinguished service

by Pte Ntšhele Ntoi

**H**is Majesty King Letsie III awarded medals to the members of the disciplined forces, police services, prisons services and civilians at the palace grounds on the 16 July, 2001. This ceremony was also held in commemoration of the King's birthday annually.

The medals awarded were in descriptive of the Commander of the Most Gallant Order of Makoanyane, Officer of the Most Gallant Order of Makoanyane, Meritorious and lastly Long Service and Good Conduct medals.

There were 195 members of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF), 151 from Lesotho Mounted Police Service (LMPS), 30 from Lesotho Prisons Services (LPS), and 32 civilians who received the medals.

Private Masaka Mpota (33) of the LDF was awarded the meritorious medal for the selfless commitment and dedication to his duty, which was described as a credit to the LDF and the country. He was also complemented on setting good example to his fellow officers and men.

"I was fairly amazed when I was informed that I have been nominated for this medal", Mpota said adding, "my advice is that everybody must learn to execute their duties to the best of their ability. People should also note that self-respect, discipline and unity amongst fellow workmates is the only way forward", ad-

vised Pte Mpota.

Second Lieutenant Pitso Lesia

was also there standing behind young Lesia (16) at the parade. They were there to receive the 20

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*There were 195 members of the Lesotho Defence Force (LDF), 151 from Lesotho Mounted Police Service (LMPS), 30 from Lesotho Prisons Services (LPS), and 32 civilians who received the medals.*

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His Majesty King Letsie III warding some medals to members of disciplined forces and outstanding citizens. Pic by:- Pte N J Hokinyana

*"I was fairly amazed when I was informed that I have been nominated for this medal",*

years Service Medal on behalf of the late Pte Nkopane Pule who passed away a short while before.

"Pule was a workaholic; he was one of the outstanding figures amongst my staff at the LDF Personnel Office. I deeply regret his untimely death", bemoaned 2Lt Lesia.

The King's birthday celebrations are held in July every year and are well attended by people from all walks of life. ■

# Battered women reluctant to sue husbands



by WO II  
Selebalo Sebe

**M**anthekele Phoka (not her real names) lives like a bird in her home at Borokhoaneng Maseru with her two children. She is so

abused by her husband that everytime he arrives at home she feels chills down her spinal cord.

"He really hits the bottle and his excessive drinking is a real nightmare for the whole family. When he arrives at home he makes his presence felt by kicking open the door, hurl abuse at me and sometimes beat me up for no apparent reason", she said.

According to 'Manthekele her husband was recently retrenched from South African mines. I know for a fact that he was given a severance package which he is blowing up with his spending spree.

"He claims to have no money when I ask him to buy me a simple dress and yet he affords to come home drunk every evening", she wondered.

'Manthekele suggested that despite her loyalty to her husband she was going through hell in her own family. "I am struggling to make ends meet especially for my kids as he does not support the family financially. What is more I can't even tell when I last had conjugal rights with my husband", she said.

Her husband, Temeki Phoka, was unperturbed by the allegations against him and claimed that his wife was his property. He stated that no body had the right to intrude into his family matters. "I have parents and relatives to whom my wife can report me if she has complaints against me, no body else-not even the police", he stressed.

Mat'seliso, 13, daughter of

'Manthekele says she loves her father because he gives her money. "He gives me money to buy sweets and chips", said the innocent looking girl. She said the only thing that she hates is when her father makes noise while they are sleeping. "He wakes us up at night when he arrives and I don't like it", she added.

Keiso Marite, a programme officer with the Maseru based Women and Law in Southern Africa (WLSA) Research Trust, says it is unfortunate that communities do not show a united front against domestic violence. "Neighbours should not stand idle by and watch their neighbors subjected to humiliating domestic violence", she suggested.

She singled out bad upbringing as one of the contributing factors to women battering. "Boys are encouraged to be tough and strong and they misconstrue this to mean being physically dominant towards other people especially women", she ex-

*"I have parents and relatives to whom my wife can report me if she has complaints against me, no body else-not even the police"*

plained.

Mokhibo Matela-Qwintsa, another program officer with WLSA, said the media should stop the practice of reporting in a manner which belittles women. "This practice tends to make women reluctant to report incidents of abuse lest they are ridiculed", she said.

A catholic priest, Father Bernice OMI, says the church totally condemns domestic violence and as priests they use counseling to address family problems. He said he could not understand why men do not take the cue from animals. "I have never seen a dog biting a bitch. Do dogs behave better than the human beings"? he asked.

'Mamasupha Bereng, an office assistant at Selibeng Centre, a counseling institute for victims of family violence says Lesotho is not doing enough to eradicate domestic violence. "I believe that there should be a temporary home to accommodate victims of domestic violence while they recuperate from their ordeals", she suggested.

She said other countries such as South Africa, Botswana, and Zimbabwe have temporary homes for victims of domestic violence. "Our centre gives counseling and advocacy to all people be they women, men or children. We even sensitise them about their rights and where necessary we help them take legal action against offenders", she explained.

Mrs Bereng said domestic violence was more common in young marriages. "The situation seems to improve as people come of age. In some of these marriages the

cont. on pg 17

# "My wife was a devil in disguise" says a divorcee

by Pte Ntšhele Ntoi

**M**y children were always shocked to hear us hurling insults and swearing at each other. The sombre atmosphere of our once happy family haunted me like a terrible nightmare day and night. Believe me, man, many women could be bad wives but mine was simply a devil in disguise!", be-moaned a construction engineer, Mr Norman T'siea (36), divorced father of two.

Norman had been happily married to the apple of his eye, Anita Fusi (31) who is a teacher by profession. All hell broke loose three years ago when Anita started drinking.

"Ultimately, it became her habit. She lost all sense of responsibility. Her drinking companions took her on a series of drunken spree every weekend. Parties, fun walks, picnics - you

name it. She came home drunk late at night. You can just imagine how lonely me and my dear children felt", Norman complained.

Norman said he tried in vain to talk it over with Anita, but the latter always raised vague excuses in defence. Heated arguments ensued. Worst of all, Anita could not be convinced to accompany him to the local health clinic where he was frequently treated for sexually transmitted diseases (STDs).

That was a sure sign that they would ultimately go their separate ways. Their in-laws also tried to intervene, but to no avail.

Norman shook his head in bafflement and said, "that was too much for me. Anita betrayed my trust. My cup of suffering was filled to the brim and I had to drink it up to the last bitter dregs or opt for the only way out - divorce for that matter.



The Founder - Director of the Interracial School of Marriage Counseling (IRSMC) Rev. Calvin Motebang of The Assemblies of God.

"I filed in for divorce. Unfortunately, I lost the battle for the custody of my dear children; the reason being they were under age". Norman pays M800.00 per month for the maintenance, an equivalent of two - thirds of his monthly salary.

Asked whether he considers remarrying or not, Norman sharply pointed out that he does not even feature in the local newspapers' lonely-hearts column. "I have had enough!" he stressed.

A young boy, Vivian Thuso (14) residing at a drop-in centre run by the Lesotho Girl Guides Association in Maseru related how his estranged mother and her new boyfriend forced him out in the streets, "I babysitted for my mother when she was out for a booze. Every evening when she came home drunk she used to flog me over trivial matters".

Vivian, a STD III pupil who used to sleep in a trench near the Maseru Central Park says he hates his mother for the cruel things she and her boyfriend did to him.

"She kept on saying that man was our father, but I knew she was lying. I did not trust him either. He always threatened to castrate me. I hate him", he moaned.

Sitting next to his revered guardian, the drop-in centre social worker Mrs Lydia 'Muso, with a despairing weariness Vivian stated that if wishes could be granted, "my fondest wish would probably be to see my father reconciled with my mother".

A lecturer in Sesotho at the Lesotho College of Education, Mrs 'Maneo Agnes Poopa said, "frankly, this was not a familiar practice in our society. There used to be a strong bond of love between married couples. Honesty and respect was the hallmark of every Mosotho family".

Mrs Poopa further said that the findings of the research conducted by some of her trainees disclosed that there is an alarming rate of divorce cases in the urban areas than in the countryside where many women are housewives.

"Employed women in urban areas tend to look down at their husbands solely because they feel they are not dependent on them financially. This is not fair, though men are selfish and reluctant to acknowledge their wrongdoings; they are heads of families. As a matter of fact, they must be respected", Mrs Poopa added.

In an interview conducted at the US-Irish backed Federation of Women Lawyers Association (FIDA) headquarters in Maseru, the Programs Co-

cont. on pg 17



## ... divorcee

cont. from pg 16

ordinator, Mrs Thusoana Ntlama decisively expressed concern on this issue.

"We do not judge people; ours is to encourage tolerance, promote understanding peaceful settlement of disputes between married couples", Mrs Ntlama explained.

"Our mission is to provide legal aid clinics to all including the rural communities. Over the past years we have successfully intervened and helped harmonize sour relations between several hundreds married couples", she added.

Ntlama said FIDA is not a feminist organisation. She stated that men who seek professional help to save their marriages are also welcomed.

"Most of our women clients complain about alcoholism, vicious assault and desertion. Men are mainly indignant at their partners' refusal to conjugal rights", Ntlama said.

Statistics compiled by the Lesotho High Court Registrar Office indicate that there were 198 divorces instituted in the year 2000. From February to August this year 164 marriages have already been legally multified.

When addressing the same issue from the Christian perspective, the licensed marriage officer, founder and director of the Inter-Racial School of Marriage Counseling (IRSMC), Reverend Calvin



Mrs 'Maneo Poopa , a lecturer of Sesotho at the Lesotho College of Education.

Motebang of Assemblies of God in Maseru said while other counseling services address this problem legally, administratively, socially and circularly the church is concerned about the spiritual aspect of the victimized people.

"We provide help through biblical counseling and healing", Rev Motebang calmly recited his school's motto.

Furthermore, the Rev is conducting

premarital counseling for couples of marriageable age. He is also holding forums for boys and girls aged 16 - 18 or so.

"I give them the insight of what their lives would be like when they get married. Mind you, forewarning is forearming!" he said with a beaming face. "I always tell them to be aware that every rose has its own thorns", he added.

"Those who have a melancholic nature are potential killers sometimes. You might have heard of people who shot all mem-

bers of their families to death and then committed suicide thereafter", he regretted.

Rev Motebang said 80% of those who attend his classes are ultimately reconciled.

"I recommend audio cassettes, video tapes and books to my clients", the Rev said showing me a book entitled 'Winners Are Not Those Who Never Fail but Those Who Never Quit' , by Edwin Louis Cole. ■

## battered women...

cont. from pg 15

presence of grown up children seems to be a restraining factor", she added.

Inspector Lethae Rammea of Police Community Relations says part of the problem with domestic violence is that many wives feel embarrassed to sue their husbands for battering. He said some women withdraw cases against their husbands even before they are heard in court.

He said the problem was very serious and

widespread and unless the law was allowed to take its course he did not

*"To give you an example, on average we handle about six cases of domestic violence a day at our charge office and the number rises sharply on weekends"*

see any improvement of the situation. "To give you an example, on average we handle about six cases of domestic violence a day at our charge office and the number rises sharply on weekends", he explained.

Women Battering is a domestic violence subjected to a weaker member of the family (Woman) by a stronger member (man). It entails both physical and emotional sufferings. ■

# Mahao interprets military law



by Pte  
Tankiso Nkoho

**T**he degree of consultation by the command and individual soldiers is very high. At first we used to idle and could hardly

be consulted, but now we are fully busy," Staff Officer Class 2 (SO2) Legal, Major Maaparankooe Mahao said.

The Major explained that The Lesotho Defence Force Legal Office now has two qualified lawyers and more will be joining after completion of their law degrees at the National University of Lesotho., "The growing capacity of legal office staff is a great achievement," the Major said.

He said the office's task is to advise the LDF command and individuals on matters relating to military law. "Military law entails offences like Absence Without Official Leave (AWOL) and Desertion which my office commonly deals with," Major Mahao said.

The Major said desertion was indeed a problem in the army. "Normally deserters are detained in barracks and the fines depend on the severity of the punishment. Others are fined 3 months, 4 months or 6 months detention to barracks," the major said. He added that detainees to barracks are not allowed to go home or town till they are through with their sentences.

He indicated that this year five soldiers have been dismissed due to desertion. "Ordinarily the deserters are given second chance to reform but those five were dismissed due to the fact that they were habitual deserters," he added.

Major Mahao emphasized that the existence of the Court Martial has indeed decreased the offences the soldiers used to commit. The soldiers now know that the offenders will be charged before the Court Martial.

On the question of why the military personnel opt to be legally represented when they have to appear before disciplinary hearing. The major pointed-out that the disciplinary matters are held at two levels, where the soldiers have to appear before their Commanding Officers and the Court Martial.

"The law entitles them to be legally represented when they have to appear before the court martial," he

*"According to the severity of the sentences passed in the court martial, it is wise to provide the military courts with Judge-Advocate who knows criminal procedure."*

said. Major Mahao stressed that he has observed lack of confidence in their justice system. "The soldiers tend to think that they will be convicted arbitrarily instead of judiciously," the Major said.

Major Mahao disclosed that even though he is comfortable with the progress made in the four years he

has been in the force, there is still room for improvement. "For instance I would like to see grievance procedure being put into practice", he said.

Private Linko Matsoho (not his real name) stationed at Makoanyane barracks, who serves under Charlie Company of First Light Infantry Brigade of Second Battalion (C1 12BN) was on the 28<sup>th</sup> April this year charged with AWOL.

"I absented myself from duty Without Official Leave for 12 successive days. It was from 18<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup> December 2000, when I was under Operation Maluti Course," the Private said.

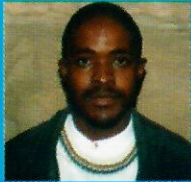
Private Matsoho said that he was fined 20 days stoppage of pay. "I was judiciously convicted and I was satisfied with the outcome," Private Matsoho said

"According to the severity of the sentences passed in the court martial, it is wise to provide the military courts with Judge-Advocate who knows criminal procedure." Advocate Moloantoa Khasipe said.

The Advocate suggested that he would appreciate it if the Judge-Advocate is a qualified lawyer as well as a well-trained military personnel.

"The necessity of the court martial goes without saying. The army without control and disciplinary machinery can not operate effectively," Advocate Khasipe suggested.

The legal office was established to advise the Commander on all legal matters affecting the Force. To prosecute charges before the court martial as well as to perform any other duties which may be assigned by the Commander of the Lesotho Defence Force. ■



Lenka Sello

## Law Perception

**M**ost of us are under the impression that law enforcement agencies and legal practitioners either do not commit crime or at the least are immune to prosecution. Unfortunately, that is not the case and only if you can take my word it is only then that you will realise how we came to believe as a nation that soldiers, police, prison warders and other stakeholders within the legal fraternity are seen to be above the law.

But, please don't say I ever suggested that this has always been the case. The reason I am cautioning you on this matter is, because I know there are those bachelors of everything and masters of nothing, but are mere gossip mongers who will deliberately misinterpret me for their own mischievous goals.

First of all, I feel morally obliged to introduce myself to those who are seeing my face and name for the first time and surely you will agree with me that those people who claim not to know me are the people who were born long after me and of course those who were born long before me, whereas my colleagues and a considerable number of my age mates will certainly share what I say as a long serving media practitioner so to speak.

So on that note I will urge you not to be surprised to find my regular contributions in the issues of Mara under the subject

"Law and Human Rights" or at least legal oriented topics which are basically intended to enlighten not only the disciplined forces on matters of law, but even the general readership of "Mara" countrywide.

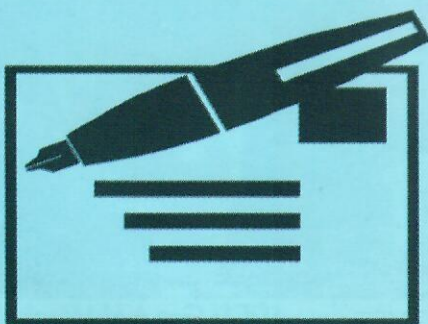
*First of all, I feel morally obliged to introduce myself to those who are seeing my face and name for the first time and surely you will agree with me that those people who claim not to know me are the people who were born long after me and of course those who were born long before me, whereas my colleagues and a considerable number of my age mates will certainly share what I say as a long serving media practitioner so to speak.*

Well, suffice it to say that we Journalists acquired our prestigious qualifications in "rapid mass com-

munications", like one of my role models once said, for the efficient operation of our "pavement media network" which misinforms the public though, I really beg to differ with him on this one. In a nut shell, what I am trying to emphasise here is that as a starting point I intend to deal with issues which are usually overlooked when done by law enforcement agencies, but then seriously considered when committed by ordinary citizens or civilians if you like while in actual fact they are all classified under crime regardless of who has committed them.

In bidding you farewell temporarily, let me highlight you on issues which we shall be looking into when we meet next time in our column. Bear in mind that I said policemen or soldiers can be, but is not supposed to, like any other person, be involved in crimes against general public welfare, hence it is an offence for them to be party to corruption, extortion, road traffic offences, drug offences, unlawful possession of arms and ammunition, possession of dangerous weapons and lastly, but not least, concealment of births.

We obviously cannot cover all of this in one column, but certainly an attempt will be made. In any case I am also of the opinion that you should never try to cross a bridge before you get to it. All you can be sure of is that the pen will always be mightier than the sword. Sorry, these are not my words, but they are from the school of thought of the likes of William Shakespeare. I will be back !!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



### Letters to the editor should be directed to

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# EVENTS IN



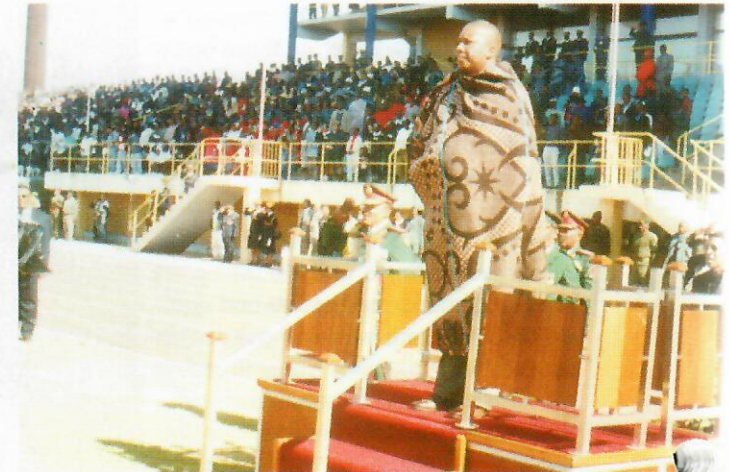
Brig Sebjoe accompanied the Commander to India. Seen here with senior Indian Army Officers with Lt gen A M Mosakeng on his right.



These are the participants at the seminar of civil military relations held at the National Convention Center, Maseru in August 2001. Pic by:- Pte.T. Kharafu



Positive Action members at work in their workshop



The Commander-In-Chief, His Majesty King Letsie III takes salute at the Setsoto Stadium on his 38th Birthday celebrations on the 17th July 2001. Pic by:- Pte.T.J.Toai.

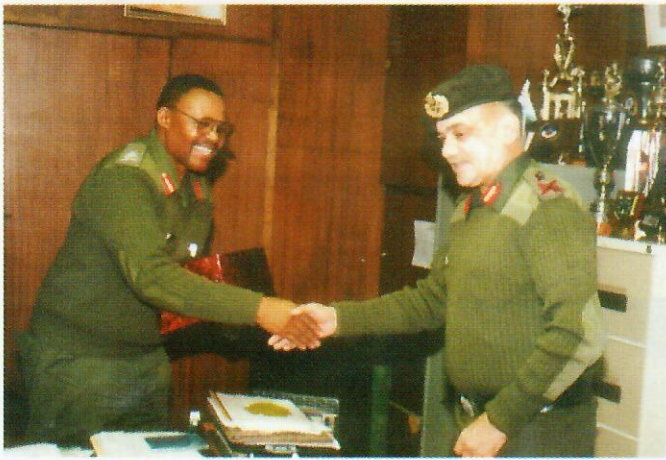


Colour party takes position at Setsoto Stadium during the 38th anniversary of the King's birthday Pic by:- Pte.G.M.Maputla.



The Commander – LDF Lt Gen A M Mosakeng (second from right) at Lanseria in South Africa where he received the LDF newly acquired BO105 helicopter. Pic by:- WOII M S Petje

# PICTURES



The Commander LDF Lt Gen A M Mosakeng welcomes the Indian Army Deputy Chief of Staff in his office, Lt Gen R K Sawhney . Pic by:- L/Cpl Popa Shamatla



Colonel Eugene Michael Mensch, of the Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, California, USA delivers a speech at the civil military relations seminar held in Maseru, from 20 – 24 August 2001. Pic by:- Pte T P Kharafu



LDF commandos under training by the Indian Army Training Team in Lesotho ready for live firing exercise at Makoanyane military base. Pic by:- Pte.A. R. Mathaba



Lt Gen A M Mosakeng – Commander LDF officially inaugurates the newly refurbished physiotherapy of Makoanyane Military Hospital on the 3rd August 2001. Pic by:- Pte gen M Maputla



Some of Positive Action members in front of their shop.



The Commander of Botswana Defence Force Lt Gen L M Fisher (center) visited his Lesotho counter part, Lt Gen A M Mosakeng (left) on 14 August 2001. On the right is the Indian Army Security Advisor to Lesotho Brig J. Singh. Pic by:- L/Cpl P R Shamatla

# HIV/AIDS pandemic : is Lesotho on the verge of disaster?

*"Fight AIDS, but not people living with it" or "If you think condoms turn you off- TRY AIDS".*

By Ingo Seifert

**T**he first case of AIDS in Lesotho was diagnosed in 1986 and 10 years later in 1996 we had only 936 reported AIDS cases in the country. It seemed like Lesotho was one of the least infected areas in Southern Africa. That was a deadly misconception. Today in the year 2001, Lesotho ranks number two in the world with over 25% of the sexually active population infected with the HIV virus, just topped by Botswana with a prevalence of approximately 32%.

The rapid increase has a serious impact on the development of our country. For many years we have ignored the existence of the HIV/AIDS epidemic in Lesotho, believing it is a disease affecting foreigners only. Only in 1998 did we seem to be slowly acknowledging that Basotho too can and do get HIV/AIDS. This acknowledgement was forced upon us by the reality of victims of the dreaded disease within our own households and families.

The fact is, even today we still find it difficult to openly say that an AIDS victim has died of the disease. At funerals, for example, the common tendency is to claim that the deceased died of diseases such as diabetes, tuberculosis, sejeso.. etc. Mooki bua 'nete!

We have to learn to confront reality and not hide behind excuses, because anybody can get infected with the Human Immuno Virus through unprotected sexual activities, fight, car accidents, sharing shaving blades and tooth brushes as well as helping bleeding people without pro-



Mr. Ingo Seifert . Chairman of Positive Action Society of Lesotho.

tecting yourself. It is not a shame to be HIV positive, but passing it on is murder.

It is time to practice serious positive action to stop the spread of HIV/AIDS, before our country is depleted of the most productive people in our society, leaving behind children and old people to support our families.

In June 1999, the Positive Action Society was established with the aim to help the infected and to create awareness about the scourge of HIV/AIDS in Lesotho. They started to install AIDS awareness billboards among other projects all over Maseru and beyond with positive messages like: "Fight AIDS, but not people living with it" or "If you think condoms turn you off- TRY AIDS". Until today they have developed 44

different messages in English and Sesotho on posters and billboards.

Positive Action means you should learn how to prevent getting infected with the virus, teaching others about disease and not discriminating people living with HIV/AIDS. The red ribbon symbolizes these virtues and people

**The theme for this year's World AIDS Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December is: "I CARE - DO YOU?"**

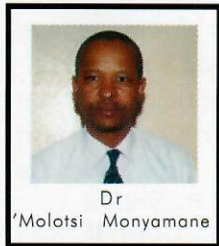
wearing the red ribbon promise that they will act responsibly in their love life, talk openly about HIV/AIDS to others and support friends suffering from AIDS.

The theme for this year's World AIDS Day on the 1<sup>st</sup> of December is: "I CARE - DO YOU?"

If we are not infected - we are definitely affected. We are all suffering and we have to combine our efforts to create a conducive environment where people getting sick with AIDS are not discriminated, but treated with respect like he or she was in healthy days.

Even when you are off duty - protect the population, use and distribute condoms, teach about HIV/AIDS in your community and work towards an AIDS FREE LESOTHO.

"I CARE - DO YOU?" AIDS ribbons and many more products are available from POSITIVE ACTION at Options Building, Pioneer Road in Maseru, Tel. 8850069. ■



## THE DIABETIC SOLDIER

- You can not be excluded from the Army
- You can not be rejected by an insurance Company
- You are no less of a Men or Woman
- You can do the same job as other Soldiers
- You can have a family

### **ONLY IF YOU CONTROL YOUR DIABETES WITH:**

- Exercise
- Health Diet
- Medications
- Self Monitoring
- Regular Medical Check Ups.
- Regular Eye Check Ups.

### **YOU WILL ENJOY A LONG HEALTHY LIFE AND DELAY COMPLICATIONS.**

#### TIPS:

- Inform your team leader about diabetes
- Exercise with a Friend
- Always have sugar in your kit
- Check your blood sugar regularly
- Do not exercise if your blood sugar >14mmol/l
- Keep your feet clean and dry
- Do not wear tight foot wear
- Wear a diabetic Bracelet.

### **WHAT IS DIABITES?**

It is a disorder in which the body is unable to properly utilize blood sugar (Glucose) for energy. Due to lack of insulin.

This a genetic disease which is triggered by environment factors like Viruses, Stress and Difeets in the body's autoinmine system. These can trigger diabetes in

people genetically prone to have it.

### **WHO IS AT RISK?**

- Anybody, rich or poor
- High risk Groups :
  - i Relatives of people with Diabetes
  - ii Overweight People
  - iii People with High Blood Pressure
  - iv People over the age of 40
  - v People who eat high fat low fiber diet
  - vi People who do not Exercise
  - vii Women who had Diabetes when they were Pregnant

### **IS THERE A CURE?**

There is no cure for Diabetes but it can be controlled by:

- Exercise
- Diet
- Medications - Tablets  
- Insulin

You can do more for the management by joining the Diabetic Team:

- DOCTOR
- DIABETIC NURSE
- EDUCATOR
- DIETITION
- OPHAMOLOGIST
- PODIATRIST

### **TYPES OF DIABETES**

Type I : They need insulin to survive

Type II: They have reduced insulin which can be

stimulated by tablets but will need insulin later in life.

### **SYMPTOMS OF DIABETES**

- Many people have symptoms but a few do not know that they have diabetes, by the time you have symptoms you have had the diabetes for about 7 years.
- Weight loss
- Excessive Thirst
- Excessive Urination
- Blurred Vision
- Lethargy

### **HOW DO YOU DIAGNOS DIABETES?**

Fasting Blood Sugar > 7mmol/l

Random Blood Sugar >11.1mmol/l

#### MEDICATIONS:

Type I - INSULIN

Type II - SULPHONYLUREAS – Drugs that stimulate the pancreas

- Diamicon
- Glibenclamide
- Tolbulamide
- Chlopropamide
- Amaryl

**BIGUANIDES** - Drugs that sensitize the body organs to insulin

- Metformin

### **COMPLICATION S OF DIABETES**

If diabetes is not properly treated, can course damage to:

- Eyes
- Kidneys
- Nerves
- Feet
- Arteries
- Heart
- Impotence of Men and Women. ■

## 'MUSTS'

# YOU ARE A LEADER OF MEN!

BY  
2LT Tlali Kamoli

You are now in the position of authority and it carries a heavy burden of responsibility. It is a privilege, not a right. These guidelines will help you to mould your men into a winning team.

### YOU MUST:

- Set the welfare and interests of your troops above your own; be their confessor and "father", always approachable.
- Win their trust by your example and your actions.
- Treat them firmly but with sympathy, and praise them when deserved.
- Foster a fighting spirit by building loyalty, by your good examples and by issuing clear orders. Make them part of a winning team.
- Be loyal to your troops. Take the "Punch" with them.

- Keep them informed and foster mutual trust.
- Be neat in appearance and use your language judiciously.
- Know your job. Admit mistakes.

### ABOVE ALL - LOOK DOWN, NOT UP.

\* Remember, in the heat of the battle your life may depend on the training and loyalty of your men.

### DON'TS

To attain success there are certain things you must avoid. These guidelines will assist you in moulding our most precious assets – our troops – into the best Army in Africa.

### DON'T

- Repeat the things that irritated you in your seniors' dealings with you.
- Swear, be sarcastic, strike one of your subordinates or pick on one incessantly.
- Scold any one in the presence of his comrades.

- Use the name of the Almighty in vain.
- "Pull rank" – rather lead by a good example.
- Be a "wise guy" – you won't fool your men; don't underestimate them.
- Be unreasonable and bombastic and so try to hide your incompetence.
- Expect them to do something you 're not prepared to do yourself.
- Make promises that you cannot fulfil.
- Spread rumours; repeat confidential conversations and personal matters and don't criticize your seniors in front of your men.
- Question orders from above in the presence of your troops.
- Forget your good manners.
- Curry favour or look for cheap popularity.
- Overlook irregularities – be strict but just.
- Worry too much about your seniors' opinion of you; the opinion of your men is more important.
- Make an example – set one.
- Look up – look down.

## Groups

By 2Lt Lekhooa "Longfellow"  
Ramokhoro

Some members keep the group strong  
While others join just to belong  
Some dig right in, some serve with pride  
Some go along just for a ride.

Some volunteer to do their share  
While others lie back and just don't care  
Some do their best, some help, some make  
Some do nothing else but to take.

Some greet members with a smile  
And make their coming worthwhile

While some go along with their merry way  
No greeting nor a kind word to say.

Some help the group to grow and grow  
When asked to help they don't say no  
Some drag, some pull, some don't, some do  
Consider, which of these members are you? ■





## Advertising Rates

Effective from June 1, 2001

### Display Advertising

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### Commission

A standard 16.5% commission will be paid to a recognised Advertising Agency handling the insertion of display advertisements.

### Personal Information Advertising

M1 .00 per word minimum of six words.

## Subscriptions

#### ENQUIRIES:

Tel: +266 326 080 Fax: +266 310 351

Postal Address: P. O. Box 54, Maseru 100, Lesotho

### SUBSCRIPTIONS RATES

	<b>3 Issues</b>	<b>6 Issues</b>
Schools	M 7.00	M 15.00
Lesotho	M 8.00	M 16.00
South Africa	M 10.00	M 17.00
Southern Africa	M 12.00	M 20.00

Please send me copies of Mara ( tick the appropriate box)

**3 Issues**

**6 Issues**

I enclosed a ( cheque/cash/money order) of M\_\_\_\_\_

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*N.B, when ordering, verify your organisation by office stamp.*

*MARA comes out only every two months.*

Get your  
business seen  
and heard.

It pays to advertise with  
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Tel: 32 6080

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**The Editor**  
**MARA**  
**P. O. Box 54,**  
**Maseru 100, Lesotho**





# KINGDOM OF LESOTHO

## Invitation for Bids

Date: August 31, 2001

IFB No: EFUIDA 0168

Education Sector Development Project II

### Supply and Delivery of Hostel Furniture to National Teachers Training College

Credit No. LSO3192

1. This invitation for bids follows the General Procurement Notice for this project that appeared in *Development Business*, issue No. 510 of 16 May 1999 and updated in issue 553 of 28<sup>th</sup> February 2001.
2. The Government of Lesotho has received a credit from the International Development Association (IDA) of the "World Bank" toward the cost of *Education Sector Development Project II*, and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this credit to payments under the contract for *Supply and Delivery of Hostels Furniture*.
3. The Principal Secretary for Education now invites sealed bids for eligible bidders for *The Supply and Delivery of Hostels Furniture to the National Teacher Training College now known as Lesotho College of Education* of the following:

#### LOT 1

ITEM	QTY
Single Beds	392
Mattress	392
Stacking-Chairs	392
Waste Paper Bin	392
Bedside Mats	392
Mobile Locker	392
Mirrors	896

#### LOT 2

ITEM	QTY
Curtains: Size: (W) 1022mm x (H) 1245mm	352
Size: (W) 0533mm x (H) 1245mm	120
Curtains: Window A Size: (W) 1022mm x (H) 1260mm	174
Window E Size: (W) 0533mm x (H) 0965mm	184
Window G Size: (W) 0533mm x (H) 1260mm	6
Window H Size: (W) 1022mm x (H) 0965mm	120
Curtains: Window 1 Size: (W) 0750mm x (H) 1875mm	60
Window 2 Size: (W) 0750mm x (H) 1250mm	60
Window 3 Size: (W) 1065mm x (H) 1930mm	160

cont. on pg28

Window 4	Size: (W)	0800mm x (H) 2225mm	40
Window 5	Size: (W)	1950mm x (H) 1815mm	12
Window 6	Size: (W)	0700mm x (H) 1835mm	6
Curtains: Shower	Size: (W)	1500mm x (H) 2000mm	78

4. Bidders might bid for one or both lots provided they quote for all items and quantities in the lot. Bid evaluation will be on per lot basis or combination of the lots; whichever is economically most advantageous to the Purchaser. In case no bidder bids for all items in any lot, contracts for that lot may be awarded on an item-by-item basis. Bidders must submit satisfactory evidence of capability including experience of supply of similar items to other institutions.
5. Bidding will be conducted through the international competitive bidding procedures specified in the World Bank's *Guidelines: Procurement under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits*, and is open to all bidders from eligible source countries as defined in the Guidelines.
6. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from the Senior Procurement Officer, *Education Facilities Unit* and inspect the bidding documents at the address given below:

**Education Facilities Unit**

P.O. Box 1279  
Maseru – 100  
Kingdom of Lesotho  
Situated on Site 130, Fokothi  
Off Moshoeshoe Road, Maseru, Lesotho  
Tel: ++266 – 317130  
Fax: ++266 – 310307  
E-Mail: [efu@education.gov.ls](mailto:efu@education.gov.ls)  
From 8.00 to 14.30hrs

7. A complete set of bidding documents in *English* may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of a written application to the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of *Three hundred Maloti (M300.00) or in Sixty US dollars (\$60.00)*. **The method of payment will be Cash payable at the Ministry of Education Accounts Department or Bank Guaranteed cheque.** The document will be sent by courier for those who cannot come to collect them.
8. Bids must be delivered to the address below at or before **October 16, 2001, at 14.15 hrs.** All bids must be accompanied by a bid security of *not less than two percent (2%) of the bid price.* Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below:

The Secretary  
Central Tender Board  
Ministry of Finance  
P.O. Box 395  
High Court Road  
Situated at Third Floor  
Government Offices Complex Phase III  
Off Kingsway Maseru – 100  
Kingdom of Lesotho

On or before 14.15hrs on Tuesday October 16, 2001.

Secretary for Central Tender Board



# **KOMISI E IKEMETSENG EA LIKHETHO (IEC)**



## **NGOLISO EA BAKHETHI**

**KOMISI E IKEMETSENG EA LIKHETHO E NA LE BOIKARABELO  
BA HO TLISA LIKHETHO TSE ANANELOANG, TSE  
LOKOLOHILENG, TSE LEKA-LEKANANG, TSE BONALETSAANG  
'ME TSE Fihlelehang ho sechaba sa Basotho.**

# **HOPOLA HO NGOLISA**

**U BE LE MONYETLA OA HO  
KHETHA  
KENYA LETSOHO NTLAFATSONG  
EA PUSO EA  
SECHABA KA SECHABA**

## **MATSATSI A NGOLISO:**

**13 PHATO  
HO EA  
30 LOETSE 2001**

1862



2001

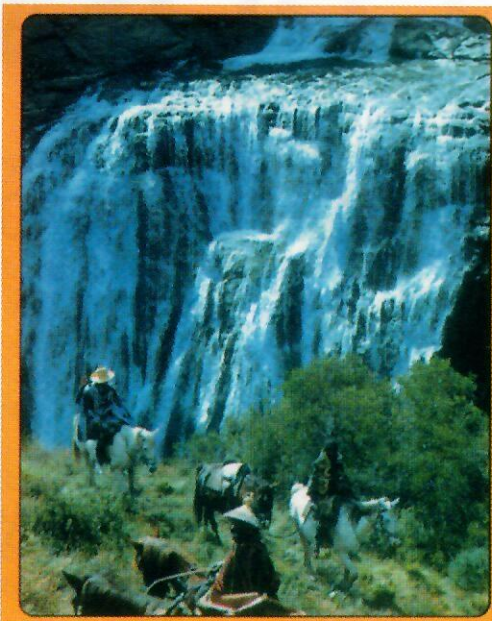
# Morija Sesuto Book Depot

P.O. Box 4 - Morija 190

Telephone: 360 204

Retail Shops Tel/Fax:

- Maseru (09266) 323783
- Mafeteng 700769
- Leribe 400268



MOSHOESHOE I

### Phororo ea Qiloane haufi le Molimo Nthuse

U se ke ua ba paki feela ho loants'a oa heno;  
U ka thetsa joang ka memolo ea hao?

U se ke ua re: joalo ka ha a nkentse le  
'na ke tla moo etsa joalo; ke tla busetsa  
ho e mong le e mong ka mesebetsi ea hae.

Liprov. 24:28-29



EUGÈNE CASALIS

**Project Implementation and Management**

**Aim**

To train participants in competencies and skills in the management of projects so that they are able to plan, appraise, effectively implement and control their performance by monitoring and evaluation.

**Objectives**

At the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Plan the project
- Appraise the project
- Effectively implement the project
- Manage the performance of the project.

**Content**

- The Macro-Economic Context of Development Planning
- The Plan Preparation of a Project
- Technical planning of the Project
- Budgeting and Cash Flow preparation
- Qualitative and Quantitative Indicators of Project's Worth
- Market Structure and Consumer Analysis
- Human Resource Management
- Financial Resource Management
- Infrastructure Resource Management
- Project Performance Monitoring Skills
- Project Ex Post Evaluation Techniques
- Computer Applications in Project Management

**Target**

Project managers and administrators, project officers, heads of operations/departments in all sectors of the economy, regional and district development bodies.

**Requirements**

Should be a practicing project manager or planner or experienced administrator from government, parastatal or private sector.

**Evaluation**

Assessment of the extent to which each participant can apply the acquired skills to a life situation project of her/his choice to be presented on the Closing date.

A certificate of successful completion will be awarded.

**Duration**  
Eight weeks

<b>Code</b>	<b>Country</b>	<b>From - Until</b>
PIM-02	Lesotho	17 Sept - 09 Nov. 2001

**REGIONAL OFFICE**  
P.O.BOX 60167  
GABORONE, BOTSWANA  
Telephone: 306433  
Fax: 313423

**COUNTRY OFFICE**  
P.O.BOX 1357  
GABORONE, BOTSWANA  
Telephone: 313296  
Fax: 313296  
E-Mail: [IDM@INFOR.BW](mailto:IDM@INFOR.BW)  
Home Page:  
<http://www.info.bw/-idm>

P.O.BOX 1318,  
MASERU, LESOTHO,  
Telephone: 312868  
Fax: 310084  
E-mail: [idmls@lesoff.co.za](mailto:idmls@lesoff.co.za)

P.O.BOX 1534, MBABANE, SWAZILAND, Telephone: 20731/2 Fax: 20733

**Fabrics of all forms for your  
select choice**

**Tevira Grepe Serge Carducci Hornstooth Barathea  
100%Wool Pool/Snooker cloth Flannel**

**TRADORETTE CENRE NO 19, ABOVE "SOMETHING FISHY"**

**COME MEASURE SUITS & SKIRTS**

## WHAT is EBAS?

### A scheme that

- Is funded by the ACP group and the European Commission designed to enhance the competitiveness of private sector enterprises in ACP countries.
- Provides grants of 50% towards the cost of expertise needed.
- Provides up to a maximum of EURO 70,000 per applicant.
- Aims at activating demand for, and supply of, specialised consultancy services.
- Also providing free advice on technical business matters to enterprises, by EBAS Regional Offices.
- Consultancy services shall be rapidly deliverable and practical, requiring no capital expenditure and resulting in short term benefits to the enterprise.

### HOW does it work?

- EBAS works through a network controlled by a Brussels Office (the PMU), and four EBAS Regional Offices.
- EBAS is designed to provide, in the form of a grant, 50% of the costs of accessing business development services.
- EBAS will meet a maximum of 50%.
- The applicant must pay not less than one third of the total cost.
- The balance may be funded through other grants.
- Payment will be made progressively on the basis of documentary evidence of expenditure, during the life of the programme and according to agreed audit procedures.

### WHO qualifies?

- All private enterprises in ACP countries and more particularly SME's in manufacturing and service enterprises.
- Intermediary organisations of ACP countries such as Chambers of Commerce and Producers Associations.
- Local providers of specialised business services, such as consultancy companies.

### WHO does not qualify?

- Parastatal and government entities where the State holds a majority share interest.
- Associations fully funded through government or sources other than their members.

### HOW do potential beneficiaries apply?

- The PMU Brussels Office, Website,, business associations and Relay points.
- The website: [www.ebas.org](http://www.ebas.org)
- Four EBAS Regional Offices:
  - Nairobi (Kenya) - Eastern Africa and Indian Ocean.
  - Abidjan (Cote d'Ivoire) - West and Central Africa.
  - Gaborone (Botswana) - Southern Africa.
  - Bridgetown (Barbados) - Caribbean.
- The Brussels Office covers the Pacific region.
- Enterprises fill out an APPLICATION FORM providing company details and describing services to be supported by an EBAS grant as well as expected outputs benefits.
- Applications will be approved by the ACP Group and the European Commission.

### WHEN will the applicant receive an answer?

- Quick responding mechanism, thanks to an interactive website and Virtual Office on the Internet.
- 12 working days, maximum, for applications to be approved.
- Enterprises and Associations whose enterprises are turned down may appeal to an independent committee for a review.

### WHICH kind of services can help you to improve your competitiveness?

Business Development Services are those provided by specialists in fields such as:

- Marketing and Sales (including e-commerce).
- Development of Export.
- Production.
- Procurement and Logistics.
- Quality Control and Norms.
- Environmental aspects and Compliance with import countries' regulation.
- Warehousing and packaging.

And in association with any of the above:

- Human Resource Development and Training.
- IT and communication.

### Project Management Unit Head Office

110 Bd Auguste Reyers B-1030 Brussels Belgium

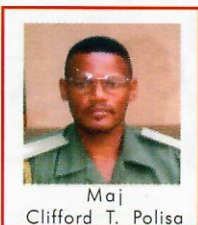
Tel: 0032.2.740.02.40 Fax: 0032.2.740.02.49

E-mail: [ebas@ebas.org](mailto:ebas@ebas.org)



EU/ACP BUSINESS ASSISTANCE SCHEME





Maj Clifford T. Polisa

# Lesotho Defence Force to take part in SADC Peacekeeping Exercise in Tanzania

**L**esotho has been invited to take part in a Peacekeeping exercise to be held in Tanzania in February 2002 with the other Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries. The name of the exercise is "EX- TANZANITE 2002 RECAMP-3.

Ex – Tanzanite consist of a Politics- Military Seminar, which was attended by the General Officers from the troops' contributing countries as well as donor countries. The seminar ran from 09 to 11 May 2001 in Sir-E Leone in Tanzania. The purpose of the seminar was to brief the generals from the countries that will contribute troops about the purpose of the exercise, objectives, the scope and the exercise scenario. Lesotho will contribute a platoon size troops, platoon headquarters and four officers who will take part in the command post Exercise. The officers holding command appointments will have opportunity to serve in a joint multina-

plan on the number of troops, the number of officers to man the main Command Post, such as the Exercise Head quarters. It was also to agree on logistical matters as well as recounting the exercise area.

from troops will take several various command appointments during the exercise. On the other hand, (FTX) is where the troops from SADC countries will engage in various assignments during the exercise.



LDF peacekeepers



After many years of ravaging wars in Africa governments are rallying behind peacekeeping moves and operations. Pic by:- Pte A. R. Mathaba

tional head quarters where they will command multinational troops.

Politics – Military seminar was followed by the Main Planning Conference which ran for one week, starting from 14 to 18 May 2001 in Dar – Er Leone in Tanzania. The purpose of the Main Planning Conference was to plan the exercise, agree to

The main planning conference was attended by two (2) officers from the SADC countries. Lesotho was represented by Colonel Phatoli Lekanyane and Major Tjotjela Polisa. Ex- Tanzanite will consist of a Command Post Exercise (CPX) and a Field Training Exercise (FTX) where officers

Other than 14 SADC countries, Kenya and Madagasca have also been invited to take part in EX-TANZANITE. This peacekeeping exercise has been sponsored by the French government in collaboration with other 25 countries as donors both from Europe and other parts of the world. International Organisations and Non-governmental organisations have also shown keen interest in suppd Non-st in suppise.

This exercise is part of the tripartite initiative aiming at helping African countries to have the readiness available and necessary means to take part in Peacekeeping Operations within their continents. It is mainly a French concept of reinforcement of the African capabilities for peacekeeping (RECAMP). It is aimed at demonstrating the capacity of the SADC countries to commit a force of a battalion size in order to perform the following tasks:

cont. on pg 33

- Maintain peace with the consent of the parties after logistic reinforcement by countries.
- Protect civilian population particularly refugees and displaced persons and the safety of humanitarian co ways.
- EX-TANZANITE is planned to be a battalion size deployment supported by both naval and air force components.

The goal and main objective of the exercise are to share between all participating nations experience gained in peacekeeping Operations.

The main goal for troops contributing countries are to:

- develop regional cooperation in the field of peacekeeping.
- demonstrate their political willingness to contribute to international peacekeeping; and
- enhance friendly relations between the countries of the sub-region.

The main objectives of EXERCISE TANZANITE are to:

- develop a know-how in a range of issues relating to regional multinational peacekeeping operations;
- make up, conduct and monitor a peace keeping multinational joint force with the support of other nations;
- take part in the design and the setting up of the command organisation;
- enhance the capacity of their Armed Forces in the execution of combined operations within the SADC framework;
- assess the capacity of their Armed Forces to achieve operations of securing an area; and
- conduct civil – military actions in support of the civil authorities on for the population before the arrival of relevant humanitarian organisations, while taking into account logistic, media and humanitarian constraints.

# Who is a soldier: my perception



By  
Rapele Mphaki

He is neither a pusillanimous man. Nor a flibbertigibbet, he does not intend to be obstreperous, or behave outrageously. He still wants to be subjugated and remains subservient to the Rule of law. A need of instilling no fear to his superiors as well as his subordinates is the first priority.

He utters a word/asks a question for a point of clarification, of orders or instructions, and things recur without any unsubstantiated accusations being directed to anyone.

While in uniform he is not seen going up and down the streets nuzzling ladies with his mouth even at public places.

First and foremost when given an assignment; Flexibility, dedication, confidence and patriotism is of vital significance, lest his life be in jeopardy.

Always at an observation post To detect and counter the evil Activities of the enemy of his Native land, because security Is well impressed in his Passivo-active intellect.

When tackling any problem, He does not draw a consequent (conclusion) Without making his judgement Starting from the Universal Perspective to the particular.

If there is a state of hostility And opposition between warring factions as a gallant, he intervenes confidently but not ferociously because violence does not bring about peace and stability.

He does not have to be A very big-headed man in Order to excogitate about The importance of his own Existence, that of his counterparts and the entire nation.

Wondering at things and asking He questions about the nature of Things in the universe that must be his Principle.

Unusual movement constitutes His scepticism at all times. Most and above all a higher Maintained standard of Discipline constitutes a real soldier. Thus a soldier in action.

**"I CARE -  
DO  
YOU?"**



# Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor

I have just finished reading Major Mahao's exposition. It is very good and it explains the sequence of events governing the army. The problem as I see it is that we are still hooked on sticks and stones with a satchel of spears for good measure. Our equipment is old :

We do not even have a couple of radars.

We do not have anti aircraft missiles.

We do not have anti tank missiles coupled with range finders.

We do not have heat seeking missiles.

We do not have microchip seeking missiles.

We are a small army and as such we should be well equipped to repel any attack from any quarter. Our soldiers should be well educated in the use of every rusty equipment we have. Train some as a sapper unit. The smart boys should be trained as missile makers and in future as rocket experts. We are proud of our boys, but we would be prouder still if their courage is matched with real equipment.

Khobe Letsie

Thank you for expressing your views on the state of the Lesotho army and its equipment. I am sure you will agree that the bulk of the armaments you refer to is very very costly indeed. As a poor country Lesotho must prioritize its needs in accordance with her pressing socio-economic needs. As a poor country Lesotho can ill-afford to live beyond its means. A balancing act therefore needs to be done.

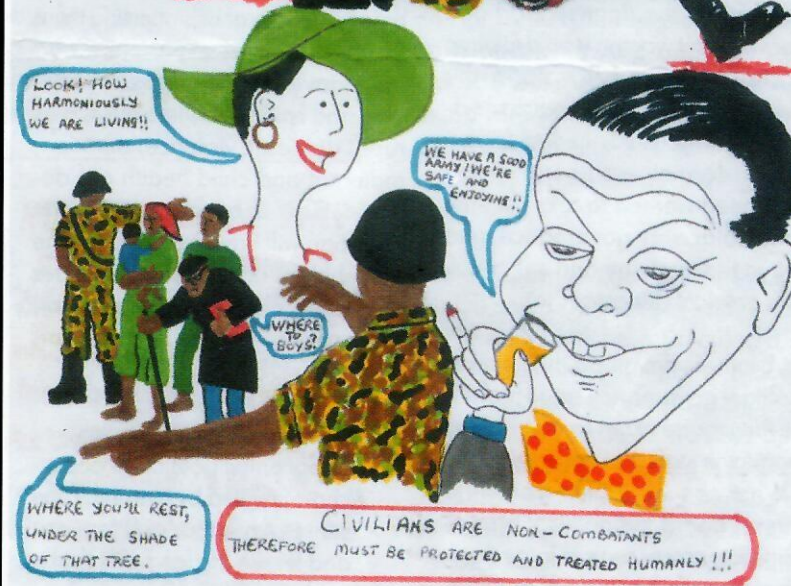
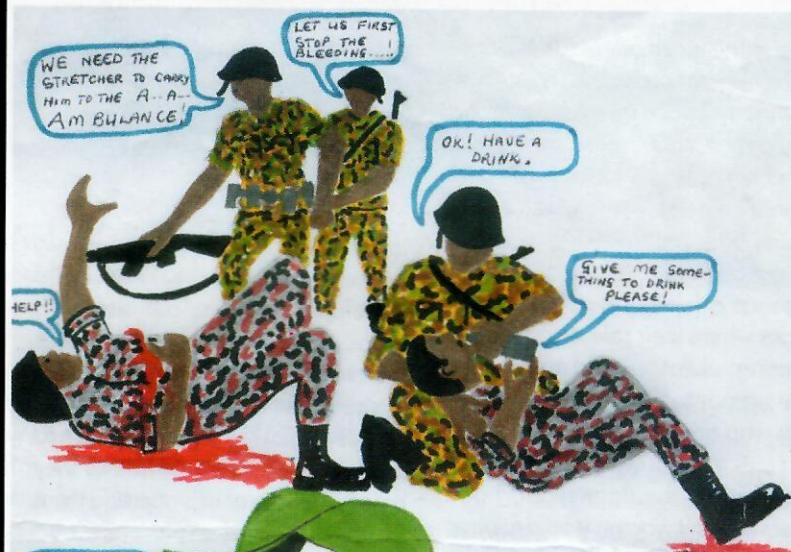
editor

# Cartoons

by:

WOLL M. P. SEKOBOTO

PROFESSIONAL SOLDIERS DO CARE FOR WOUNDED OR SICK ENEMY SOLDIERS, THEY CAN NO LONGER FIGHT. THEY SHOULD BE GIVEN TREATMENT AND PROTECTION AS IF THEY ARE SOLDIERS OF THEIR OWN ARMY!!!



# Basotho Women Will Bring a Fresh Perspective to Politics.

*It is time women brought a different perspective to politics, the perspective of being caring and nurturing.*

**B**asotho women have a right and duty to enter and transform the political process. Lesotho embraced the principles of democracy in 1993 but sadly eight years down the line there are still no women in sufficient numbers in the forefront of political power.

This is a disheartening fact given the fact that women make up the majority of our population. Despite global and regional concern on the absence of women in positions of power and decision-making, Lesotho does not seem to be having any concrete plans to reverse this state of affairs.

Despite the fact that our SADC leaders have been proactive in suggesting that by 2005, all member states should reflect 30% representation of women in politics and decision making in all their structures, we are not witnessing any convincing moves in that direction. Sure enough, women's presence is felt in the political campaigns where their role is confined to cheering, ululating, and enthusiastically supporting their male counterparts who are political leaders.

I believe that the right support and empowerment women would take up the challenge and transform the power game. The current political system in Lesotho is in need of urgent and transformative surgery. We urgently need women to take up their rightful place in governance and bring in the feminine and soft touch to the political discourse.

Our brothers have had their shares of solitary governance and I feel it is time they made room for soul sisters to show the staff that they are made of. What can we expect women to bring on board the political arena? By entering power seats in large numbers women will bring along different perspectives to the process and



Keiso Matashane-Marite

quality of decisions made in parliament. Also, because they make up the majority of the poor, they will in their sufficient numbers participate when economic priorities are being made and when resources are being allocated.

It is a fact that women's needs, priorities and interests are different and therefore it justifies our sisters to speak up for themselves when issues affecting them are debated. Does n't this ring true of 'hearing it from the horses mouth?' Bringing women to parliament would ensure that they argue in favour of bills affecting them from a point of experience and therefore exude the necessary passion and spirit when issues such as rape, domestic violence, nutrition, maternal and child health are debated. This is because a woman politician will have experienced the hardships of one or all of the issues mentioned. There are several advantages of women entering the realms of politics;

Women will transform the andocentric political process characterised by hierarchy, the sense of humour and festivity and lessen the formality that is at times stifling, funny and meaningless. Women would

bring to politics dynamism and a culture of collective action to enrich the culture of politics and legitimise the development process. They would bring their own view and skills to governance to reshape the economy and allocation of resources. We will not only bring along knowledge from formal education but from the very fabric of our lives. Allocation of resources and prioritisation would have been learned from the shopping baskets and from minding our households. Our roles as caretakers, nurturers and mothers give us a special wisdom. This is because caring for the sick, the elderly and people with special needs becomes our responsibility. As politicians therefore our voices would be loudest on gender friendly policies for welfare, social justice and health care.

Lesotho would especially benefit from having a critical mass of women in power as exemplified by Nordic countries like Denmark and Sweden where issues of social justice and welfare are at the top of the government agenda.

An interesting feature, which could be a good lesson for Lesotho and the rest of her African sisters for having women in large numbers, is the low level of poverty and economic inequalities in these countries. Politics is an arena where we have the greatest hope of making lasting, significant changes. Politics gives us power to make a difference.

It is time women brought a different perspective to politics, the perspective of being caring and nurturing. Unless women's experiences and insights and knowledge about their world are taken into account in development, we are delaying the journey out of poverty.

# David Frank Atkinson (Dave) joins LDF Air Wing.

By Lieutenant Colonel Sam Makoro

**L**esotho Defence Force Air Wing employed a foreign pilot by the name of David Frank Atkinson (Dave) from Zimbabwean Air Force in April this year. The employment of Atkinson follows the untimely death of Captain Makhangoa T'sosane and the sidelining of Major Manyathela Thaane due to illness.

After the loss of the two pilots LDF Air Wing was forced to hunt for a replacement pilot that can fit readily into the Bell 412 cockpit, other than to recruit a new pilot that would take some time to reach required standards.

Straight after finishing school, he joined the South African Air Force and trained on Impala Jet. He achieved his pilot's wings in November 1973. His greatest ambition was to fly helicopters, so in order to gain experience and build-up enough flying hours, he went from jets to Cessna 185 piston air craft. He soon built-up his hours and in June 1974, began his helicopter conversion on Alouette III helicopters.

In the South African Air Force, Dave flew the Alouette, Puma and Super Frelon helicopters and has amassed a total of 7,600 flying hours in career, most flying operations in helicopters. He ended his unbroken helicopter flying in 1987, when he was posted at Dunmott to undergo an instructors course. He turned a full circle, because after completing instructor course, he began his instructors career on Cessna 185's, then moved on to Alouette III.

Dave ended his medium service commission in December 1993, after flying for twenty-years in the SAAF. He



*David Frank Atkinson, the new Chopper Pilot with LDF Air Wing*

applied for and was accepted in the Air Force of Zimbabwe (AFZ) in August 1994. In the AFZ, he held a post of Officer Commanding of Squadron (Helicopter Flying School) and gave instructions on the Alouette as well as Agusta Bell 412.

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**He turned a full circle, because after completing instructor course, he began his instructors career on Cessna 185's, then moved on to Alouette III.**

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While in the AFZ, he was also involved in the DRC conflict, flying both the Alouette and the Agusta Bell 412. In April 2001, he resigned his commission in the AFZ and has now joined the LDF Air Wing as a Bell 412 pilot, where he is yet faced with another challenge of helicopter flying in a rugged mountainous and high altitude terrain.

He was born in Ladysmith (Kwazulu Natal) on 26 December 1953, where he stayed until he matriculated in 1971. He is the youngest of two sisters and one brother. Dave married Jenny in 1979 and has two sons, both working in Johannesburg. His hobbies include; reading and working on his computer but this will soon take second place because a new hobby is exploring this beautiful country, camping in any remote area. ■

## LDF FC clinches Castle Cup final hatrick

By Pte Sakeng Lekola

**T**he Lesotho Defence Force Football Club (LDF FC) has won the top 4 Castle Cup Final and got away with the first money price of M13,000-00. The cup final was played at Setsoto stadium on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> September this year.

Linare F.C. won the second price of M11,000.00 while LPS F.C. got the third price of M9,000.00. The bottom team, Matlama F.C. walked away with M7,000.00.

The first day of the final saw LDF

The LDF team was voted the most disciplined team and pocketed M1,000.00. Kabelo Mosothoane of Linare FC and Majara Masupha of LDF shared M1,000.00 equally for being the top scorers. Moses Ramafole



STANDING (LEFT TO RIGHT); Lefa Mashaka, Makhetha Kolisang, Lebohang Malise, Tau Lerotholi, Khoanyane Mpota, Eric Makara, Majara Masupha, Maliele Lesoetsa, Lire Phiri  
SQUATING (LEFT TO RIGHT); Motlalepula Sepipi, Teboho Motaba, Ts'epo Keketsi, Motheo Mahapi (Assistant Coach), Thulo Ranchobe, Malefetsane Pheko, Donny Nthakha (Captain).  
Pic. by:- T.Sefuthi



LDF FC profile striker Majara Masupha (yellow shirt) in a tussle for ball possession with Linare F.C defenders, at Setsoto stadium on Sunday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2001 during the top four Castle Cup Final. Linare crashed 0 - 1 to LDF F.C who won the final.  
Pic by:- T. Sefuthi

crushing Matlama FC (Mighty blues) 2-0 to qualify for the winners final while Linare FC from Leribe humiliated Masheshena 3-1. On the second day LDF FC secured its third consecutive win of the cup by a narrow margin of 1-0 over Linare FC. LDF's goal came through the much adored striker Majara "Batho" Masupha in the first half of the match.

Linare, the mighty greens, had fought like wounded lions in a vain attempt to equalize.

of Linare FC went home with M1,000.00 as the player of the competition while Lethaha Leboela, the goalkeeper of the competition also earned M1,000.00.

The deputy director of sports in LDF, Major Melato Lehloka explained that he was very pleased with the teams performance. "We have taken the trophy for good now that we take it for the third time in succession", said the major with a smile.

The final was sponsored by Lesotho Brewing Company (LBC) to the tune of M160,000. LDF F.C. walked away with M13,000 plus M500.00 for the highest score and another M500.00 for conceding the least number of goals. ■

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## Polelo ea Chebelo-Pele ea IEC

Re le komise e Ikemetseng ea Lesotho, re na le boikarabello ho tliša likhetho tse ananeloang tse lokolohileng, tse leka-lekanang, tse bonaletsang 'me tse fihlelehang ho sechaba sa Basotho.

Ho fihlela tsena tšebetsong ea rona re boulela boikitlaetso boithutong le katlehong ea tšebetso ea sepane, 'me re lumela ho phapayetsano le neheletsano e chatsi ea litaba le maikutlo.

Likamanong le ba ba bang re boulela tlatsetso le tšebetso tsa 'nete ho tsoa ho ba amehang. Boikarabello ho bohle ba amehang likhethong.

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## The IEC Mission Statement

At the IEC of Lesotho, we responsibly deliver acceptable, free, fair, transparent and accessible elections to the Basotho nation.

To achieve this, we consciously and continuously improve and learn to improve our effective teamwork and performance by using effective communication strategies and participatory approaches.

In all these, we earnestly enlist the honest support of, and are fully accountable to, all stakeholders in the Lesotho elections.



