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THE SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY

BY (:tmmt. NORMAN L DOD!)

In twelve years the South African Army has grown from a small, poorly equipped and under-manned part-time organisation to a highly effective force, well housed, well trained and with a host of new vehicles, weapons and equipment. 'The arms embargo, the threat on the South West Africa/Namibia border and the collapse of the Smith regime in Zimbabwe have greatly increased the proportion of the gross national product spent on defence. The increase in the length of National Service to two years, the extension of the number of days full time service which the reservist must carry out and the length of time he must spend on a reserve have improved the training and readiness of the Army and reserves.

Major General (J. I. Masing, the Deputy Chief of the Army, told the writer that the threat of a conventional attack upon the Republic was always present but the principal concern in 1983 is that of "insurgent and terrorist uprisings", 50% of them on the borders being on a continental scale. 'The army is therefore organised so that conventional brigades and divisions could be put into the field at short notice by calling up (Reserve) units. Border operations are carried out by national service white units and by coloured, black and Indian units carrying out voluntary national service assisted by a number of called-up Citizen Force units. Local defence is the task of the home based 'Commando units supported by Citizen Force or national service units if required.

At the SADF it was stressed that in 1983 the army is much more of a national force than ever before; all colours, races and creeds are now involved in the defence of the Republic. Universal national service for the white population, the enlistment of large numbers of non-whites and the increased enlistment of women as volunteers has ensured that most of the population has some interest in the army. According to the 'Hilimry Balance 1982/83 the total army strength on active duty is about 67,400 of which some 4,500 are non-white. Approximately 15,500 are members of the Permanent Force (long term regular officers' and NCOs); there are 2,000 women and about 50,000 National Servicemen. (Zulu-Ups take place twice a year (January and July) although the majority of conscripts report in January. The forces are administered, and in some cases controlled for local security purposes, by nine Territorial Commands but the field forces operational

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regiments, mainly Citizen.)rce, are organised into  
rnrmtiuns, The 1185 Military Balance lists one corps head-  
w 'II'I IJII'ismnal HQs (one armoured and, one infantry) and  
' 5. gm; HQI The latter comprise one armoured brigade of two  
tank 1111l tIm .ZIH( I (Ratel) carried infantry. one niechanised brigade of  
one Imk :lnIl thrL-e MICV carried infantry battalidns and four riIOtor-  
isetl IIII;IIIIrI brigades each of three infantry battalions and one  
3rlllIleL'Il c.Ir battalion iof l-Ilands. All thevbrigadcs. have their own  
suppnrng IlrllllCFI'. engineers and logistic units. There is also one  
parachute l)rll.!:ltlt' which has one Permanent Force/National Service  
l);111.111n11. ItII-11' part uf the Panrehute School. and two Citizen Force  
thIulnns, .1 IhIrd is being formed. These Cl: battalions are manned by  
NS men WlIU 11.11'k' carried out their natinnle service with the PF'batta-I  
limI .1111l bI- I'nlnunteers. The brigade is supported by parachute trained  
artillm'I .1111l other supporting units.

15w .IrIIII ,Ilsn has a special recce unit, nine field and four medium  
Irtillti' mil seIt-n light :Inti-uircmft regiIIents. one Al) missile regi-  
:III;.: Il1l I.:III;Ilc 111lssllk' 1IJHL'rll'S :Intl. acetirtlmg m 11SS, some Tiger-  
eat KIM. l'IIIL-L-II field engineer squadrons and three signal regiments.  
Therc JTL' school iintl training establishments for all the corps and regi-  
iments. these are concerned with the training of junior leaders, always  
a problem In '.I eunscript army.

The basic training at these schools in the ten NS infantry battalions.  
and IIther training units is rugged and tough' The spartan accommoda-  
tion prm ided is clean and adequate Much time is spent on drill and on  
She inculcation oi soldier like qualities; the basic recruit course lasts 12  
Weeks and for the first three weeks NS men are not allowed out of  
barracks or to drink alcohol. After that period they have limited passes.  
FL'ormullI at the end of the 12 weeks the men are streamed into suitable  
trades. then as the courses progress. a Leader Group is selected. These  
men mntinuc their insttuction in their regimental and military duties  
but mm the emphasis on leadership. Finally those selected for com-  
missions are sent on special officer courses at the appropriate School.  
The wthers IIIII hecume junitir N(10s. L/Cpls Or (Ipls.

This training includes ,a period of about three months on active  
serI'icL- On the Harder and lasts about one year;qu the second year of ' '  
his full time naIIInal service the man' will be emploIed on the' Border in  
the uniu which are permanently based there or, ii an officer or NCO  
will perhaps .IL't .Is an instructor to the liOllUIVlllg intakes of NS men  
This system III employing NS (Ipls as instructors for the new intake has  
its disadvantages because such instructors have not normally had suffii'  
cienl service in me 'mugh .and tumble' of an active battalibn Or regi-  
ment; they can II'IIII' pass on what they themselves have been taught.

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However. it is .eeessurI' system because Ol' the luck of long service  
Pl: members.

During the NS training period .the men spend time on arduous field  
exercises including survival and initiative in difficult eountri'. The heat  
. is considerable and men have to be exceptionally fit to succeed. The  
method of combination of training establishment with operational  
responsibilities is somewhat unique to South Africa. The 15t South  
African lnfaIItrI Battalion (ISA!) was established In 1951 and 15 said to  
he the mother ' 01 all the other battalions From 1979 it took met the  
training for the mechanised infantry using the Ratel MICV EIerI' year  
the unit trains lIIur IIIechanised companies and two mechanised support  
cmpanies for operational employment in the folliwing I&y. It is also  
responSille for all leader courses and for promotion courses for all  
officers.

Such Courses are II feature of the SA ArmI'; before being eligible for  
promotion III tht ntxi rank cv'erI officer. Pl or (21', must first com-  
plett his pmmntmn tiIIItSt. This system has caused the l-nrce III  
bccume SUIHL'H'llIH iCUUrsC huuntl in that (Illicers spend too much time  
away from their Imups and unit. especially those. like the (IF officers,  
wht; only have limited training time. The system is being reviewed to  
try to give more stability to units and to make them Mother units'.

The cmpanies trained by the ISAlare allocated to the 61 En which  
has a permanent leadership cadre in the opei'ational area. The mecha-  
nised infantry equipped with Ratel 205 are trained to operate with the  
a'rmured car squadrons in COIN opcra-tioris and with the tank regi-

ments in conventional warfare. 1

The 1st Special Service Bn is 50 years old. Today it is an armoured car training regiment responsible for the provision of trained squadrons for employment on the Border with the 2 SS Bn. There are three training squadrons each consisting of five reconnaissance troops. Each with four Eland 90 armoured cars live support troops with Ratel 205 and an administration troop. The training lasts - one year but because of limited numbers of armoured car squadrons are required the intake takes place every second year. Car Squadrons from this battalion have taken part in the most incursions into Angola to destroy SWAPO bases; they were extremely successful and during one raid immobilised and captured five Soviet-made T-34 tanks plus vast quantities of weapons and ammunition. 1:

HM Lt Col Immehcis III Lt Col B. L. Parachute Regiment was trained in 1961 in the training Centre which includes an operational battalion. This has been employed in total or in part in many Border operations. In the past these operations have been helicopterborne cut-off operations but others have necessitated jumping. Today the Battalion

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has .1 training wing of four parachute com.ies\_ a support company and .i parachute training wing which is mainly concerned with courses for other arms and for leaders. A trained parachute battalion .forms a part of the School and has a standard infantry organisation. There are the usual staff sections and the HQ company. The training is thorough and so far there has not been a parachute accident. All the members of the Parachute Regiment are volunteers; at selection board visits each NS call-up centre during the first week of the NS men's service and chooses the then required. They then carry out a pre-para course of two weeks physical training and six battle tests to weed out many applicants. Parachute training follows, the wings being granted after eight successful jumps, two with full equipment and one at night. The attrition rate is about 60%. Dakota aircraft based nearby are used for training jumps, for as many who served 40 years ago will recollect, these aircraft are spacious and allow plenty of room for the instructors and. despatchers to check and re-check. A flight with a stick of parachutists proved the Sale!) o! the cheeks and the dedication, stamina and efficiency of the members of this battalion and of some non-White Special Forces in the (irrup.

The School of Armour, like the other units already mentioned, is located at Tempe. Bloemfontein; it is the School responsible for the training of all PF, (2F and NS leaders, of specialists for the armoured units and instructors, for the running of armoured corps promotion courses and for the instruction of drivers' for all SAA B vehicles. For the teaching of advanced battle handling the School has an armoured squadron at the SAA Battle School. The armoured corps is equipped with Olifant tanks. a development and up-date of the British Centurion, and with Rate! armoured cars although there is much older equipment such as the Saracen and Ferret armoured cars still about or in store. The Artillery School is at Potchefstroom. This also is a true School for the instruction of officers and NCOs, for specialists. for meteorology support and for the development of artillery tactics and equipments. The SA Artillery is converting virtually all its field regiments to medium guns; at present the ex-British 5.5 inch towed gun is being . used but, as they become available, will be replaced by the new SA towed and SP 155 mm GS and G65; 3 number of the towed GS have been produced and are in service at the School and with regiments. The G6 prototypes have. been tested and are about to enter production. It appears that the SA Army took note of the effectiveness of the Soviet BM 21 MM multi-barrelled rocket launcher when used against semi-trained troops and have therefore developed the excellent Valkiri. a 24 tube model mounted on a 4 tonne four wheel drive truck. The solid fuel rockets can be fired singly or in ripples of 2 to 24. are easy to

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reload and only m.te :i crew of two. .

The range is from 8 w 22 km. The rockets :ire tipped With varying sized ring discs to increase wind resistance and so decrease the range; it is these rings (lint cause the screaming effect after launch. The warhead is packed with small metal balls which are exploded by the HE charge and a proximity fuze is fitted. The vehicle has a standard canvas hood which covers the rocket launcher when on the move. The artillery have already retired their Sexton 25 pdr SP5 and are now retiring or placing in reserve their towed 25 pdr's. 'It is bC1ICT:Cd that the SA Artillery also man 120 mm mortars but this is not confirmed. . .

V Experience on the borders. it is stated, shows that there is still a place for the mounted infantryman both on horse and on motorcycle. The Equestrian and Motor Cycle Centre near Potchefstroom is charged with the training of these personnel. Established in 1974 With the aim of training mounted personnel for COIN operations. the Centre promotes the image of the SADF by providing display teams and taking part in mounted sports, so as to enhance the standard of riding in the SADF. The Centre now has a training company, 21 courses company, a horse and motor cycle company each of six platoons. Each platoon has a 60 mm mortar section and an equestrian or motorcycle section. The training usually takes about one year and all the personnel are

carefully selected. Once trained, platoons are attached to infantry units in the operational areas for their final year of service. The training company comprise the general riding platoon whose task is to train remounts, the display platoon and an advanced riding platoon. The courses company trains the riding instructors. ' The Centre has its own stud farm at de Aar in the Karoo. the best blood line for these horses is said to be Arab and British thoroughbred. These cross-breds have the stamina required to carry a fully equipped man up to 80 km a day. The normal operating speed is the walk and men are trained to fight on their feet. However, they do carry their assault titles in the ready position and surprise actions have taken place at the gallop for the men are trained to fire from the ground or from the saddle. The section commander carries a lightweight radio. The motor cycle company is equipped with machines designed for cross country, trials work and each has a radius of about 150 km; the rider has 21 A53 'manpack radio with 16 km range. the pressel switch being mounted on the handlebar with a second one on the chest. The rifle is carried slung and the men fight from the ground. Captured SWAPO prisoners are reported as having said they are worried by these motor cycle units because they can follow raiding and ambush parties rapidly over the roughest traehets. The equestrian and MC platoons operate with tracker personnel,

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ing of mines and other explosives; the animals are trained at a special centre at Bergslng in the East Transvaal.

The Army Gymnasium, a traditional name for the establishment at Heidelberg south of Johannesburg, is the Signal Training Centre for the SA Army. The Centre accepts all NS and PF men allocated to the Corps; again each man has his normal 12 weeks basic training before continuing to the various signal trades. Selected personnel are trained as junior leaders at the Centre. The Signal Corps in general divides into two branches, the telecommunication operators (Command Centres) who operate all tactical communications and the telecommunicator operators (Systems) who are responsible for manning long distance and strategic systems. All are trained in driving and maintenance of signal corps vehicles. Courses are run for promotion and for Citizen Force and Commando personnel. Many of the prospective officers in the Corps hold a degree or technical qualifications before they join; a special syllabus is designed for such qualified recruits. The Signal Corps man - The rear links of the KC's arm units and normally train the unit regimental or battalion signal officers.

The continuing COLN operations in Namibia have increased the demand for engineer services. The intake to the School of Engineers at Krounstd has therefore been increased and about 50 courses are now held there each year. These include the basic training, junior leaders and young officers courses. The School teaches all forms of military engineering. JLLL emphasises the need to use local resources. 'Mihewarfare' is given particular attention because of the extensive use of these weapons by all armies.

The SA Army has its own Staff College and there is also a Battle School. The latter teaches the tactical handling of brigade and battalion groups and also gives intensive training to some Citizen Force units before they go to the Operational Area.

The SADF has three joint service training/educational establishments which serve all the arms of the force. These are the Military Academy, the SA Defence College and the SADF College for Educational Technology. The Academy caters for selected young officers and conducts a degree course. The SA Defence College prepares selected officers for senior command and staff appointments. The third College caters for the training of instructors and media centre co-ordinators and prepares training material for other colleges.

It should be mentioned that the SA Medical Service is a fourth Service and is responsible for the health and hygiene in the Army, Navy and Air Force. The members wear a special uniform and run hospitals, 140

hlaek and white. who are trained at a special section of the Infantry School. Outshoorn. Dogs are also used for this task and for the local - 'lil lli SOUTH AFRICAN ARMY

medical centres and ;.(tuclli:el to Army units.

Although most of the army is white increasing use is being made of i-the other races who. it is said. volunteer in large numbers. particularly for the army. . \_ . . e .

The OLLCSI nmi-white corps in the South African Detenee l-orte is the Cape Corps which can lriLL'L' its history back to 1795. Designed to train and employ C(11UUrL'tl, that is mixed race personnel, today it consists of the 1 SA (?iipe Corps Battalion which is about 2.000 strong, 1.000 being fully trained men who serve in the operational area: the other .1,000 are under training. There is also the CapeCorps Training .School. a logistic .unit and a maritime unit. Coloured Permanent Force members of the Corps carry out their training at the Cape Corps School and at other establishments of the SA Army and Navy; .coloured officers have reached the rank of Kommandant which. is equivalent to Lieutenant Colonel and have the same rights and privileges as white officers. 4 . . . . .

Indians in South Africa are not interested in joining the Army, it appears. The vacancies for the Navy are oversubscribed, applicants are trained at SAS Jiilsensi at Durban. After training they are appointed to ships and shore establishments and to the marines, a recently formed branch of the Navy employed on harbour protection and as. naval infantry. Companies of these niiriiries have successfully served With the army in an operational :ireat .

Black Permanent l-"oree members are trained with the 21' Battalion, in reality a Training School, at Lenz near Johannesburg. This unit was

formed in 1975 and since then has trained large numbers of men. leaders and specialists, many who, having completed (hClr'lanlal two year engagement. have signed on as career soldiers. The calibre of the junior leaders up to Staff Sergeant is said to be vcrv high. General Constand L Viljoen, the\_Chief of the SA Defence Fotce, told the writer that uthe black units have been a great success. their loyalty and steadiness in action has been most impressive and the Atmy is pressmg on their efforts to train more junior leaders, inclucding officers."- The expansion of the black forces is contiuiuing.; ten battalions are being formed in various regions of the Republie With the leadergcmg trained with 21 Bn. Major General Meiring said that the training of these personnel for the lArmies of the Homelands' has delayed the training and formation of more black units for the SADF. However, there are five black battalions in the new South West African/Nansibian Army who take their turn like the black units of.the SA Army, inthe operational area. There are also a number of.indigenous battalions raised in the Border areas of Kavango. Ovambo and in the CaptiVi Strip. One of these is composed of Bushmen. many of them refugees

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from Angola. The 32nd part of the Army itself, is also permanently limited in its operational area. This is emphasised by the fact that 11 of them being Portuguese from Angola. It is a tough and hardy unit said to be feared by the members of SWAPO. There are about 26,000 troops deployed on the Border; because manpower and economics does not permit the use of a fully regular force the Army has developed a workable tour of duty system using suitably sized units. A number of PF staffed brigade, battalion and regimental headquarters are permanently located in the area and, they, with a small leader group down to company commander, remain for full tours of duty of about two years and provide the continuity and expertise.

Companies of 100 NS men. (Citizen Force. blacks and coloured personnel are sent from the Republic and SW Africa to serve under these units. The Citizen Force units normally spend about 120 days on duty of which a portion is spent on intensive training before being committed to combat. All companies from whatever source pass through a short intensive training period at a battle school located south of the Border where they must be passed for operations. Non-CF companies spend about one year in the area depending upon the time the NS men still have to serve.

The company rotation system seems to work in practice although it does mean units lack some cohesion and must suffer from a lack of continuity and internal continuity. factors which make for high morale in a regular unit. It is also a little discouraging, one is told, for the battalion and company commanders who train their men back in the Republic not to lead them into action.

Recent legislation has altered the Reserve (Commitment of National Servicemen. The new system is somewhat complicated but it is designed to give every white person a full commitment to defend his country and to involve the non-whites to a greater extent than before. In future every white male will carry out his two years NS in the SADF; he will then have to turn to the Citizen Force for 12 years during which time he will spend a maximum of 720 days on duty but will not have to give more than 120 days continuous service in any two years. After this service he goes onto the Active Citizen Force Reserve for five years and must if necessary, be called up with permission of the Minister. After completing his term with the ACFR he transfers to the Commandos until he is 55.

The Commandos are a home defence force mainly of volunteers and there are non-white and multi-racial units. In effect the units are lightly armed infantry and are to be found in nearly every town and village and in all major industrial undertakings. Until 1983 they could

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volunteer for SCIF on the Border but this is no longer so. It is stated that (In the future the men to be given more responsibility and such people as volunteers in remote areas are being encouraged to form Commando units for local defence. The strength of the (military force is estimated to be about 90,000, Former national servicemen who, for some special reason are allocated to the (military must serve a maximum of 50 days a year for ten years. Others must serve for 11 years: 1 year until they are 55. Many volunteers are sent out extra SLFVICC.

The South African Army in 1983 is well equipped with vehicles and weapons specifically designed for use in the Southern African environment. ARMSCOR, the Armaments Corporation of South Africa, who are responsible for the research projects and for the development, procurement and manufacture of all armaments have made considerable progress in the last ten years. The local armament industry can now provide virtually all the Army's requirements and have entered the export market with some of their products.

The writer saw Kommandant P E Marais, Chairman of ARATSCOR, who said "In 1960 the South African Government saw the introduction of an embargo against the country. This was one of the reasons that led to the establishment of the Armaments Production Board in 1964 in 1977 after several changes of title the organisation was called ARMSCOR and given a mandate to meet the Republic of South Africa's armament needs in an efficient and economic manner and by the maximum utilisation of the private sector. - Today our assets are



1,500,000,000 mnt1 L811 nm) and ARMSCOR provides employment for 28,000 people 0!. all races."

The largest inflttstriul organisation in SA. ARMSCOR wants to sell warships -- fast missile lmut5 4, missiles, armoured cars and troop carry-ing vehicles in overseas markets. A number of countries have expressed an interest in the new (15 (iun\_

' Wettpnns prmlueet1 in'SA include the Valktrt rocket launcher, the (5 lnd (:6 artillerx' pieces iln11 artillery fire control and meteorological wstems the 60 mm M 4 mortztr. the Rsttel MICK the SAMII. range or vehicles MG 4 ttiz'tehine gun and various antiitank :tntl antt-persnnnel mines. . .\_\_

The Vulkiri has already been described; the (.5 IS a towed la) mm 'gun mounted on :t stable wheeled carriage and an :tuthtary motor ts fitted to drive the gun while the gun positions. The maximum rangeeat sea level is 30 km with normal ammunition but 37.5 kn) with a specnal base bleed projectile. The top traverse is 84 deg and the elevzt'tton of --5 deg to e75 deg enables it to be used in the high or low trajectory. The rapid rate of fire is 3 rpm; the trail. wheels and firing platform are

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pi-werised which permits the gun to bgrought into action in two minutes The gun is towed by .1 SAMII. 10 tnnne vehicle at speeds of tip In 90 kph A mechanical electronic gun monitor with an automatic 1215(1 counter. recoil length indicator and round counter is fitted. The engine mounted on the gun is a 68 hp diesel with hydraulic drive for the m.tm and trail wheels. The gun fires all nu'rml types of ammunition 01 the 155 mm calibre and three different charges :ire used for the VLlrIUUS range zones.

The (10 is the SP version of the (i5 and uses the same gun and has the same range. It is mounted on a six wheeled armoured ear type vehicle and has a good cross tountry performance: 44'projectiles are carried in the vehicle. the road speedeis 90 kph. the overall length with the gun is 102 m, the engine is an air-eooled diesel with a five speed gearbox and 4 x 4 or 6 x 4 drive. A 12.7 mm anti-aircraft gun and grenade launchers are also fitted. The 66 is described as a somewhat revolutionare S'P design giving plenty of morn for the crew. Again repurts, not surprisingly. state it is cheaper to run and maintain than 31 trucked vehicle

The A580 Artillery Fire Control System 115 designed to handle the eumputations for a fire unit of up to eight guns and can handle but simultanequs engagements. Display units are provided at cachgun. The \$700 Meteorological Ground Station is a self contained mobile system built into a container for providing information for. the artillery. The Statinn automatically tracks. receives and processes radiosonde data from. launch until flight termination. The received data is con-verted into actuali met data. this is. rccdrded on tape and directly onto a chart recorder. ' i

The 60 mm M4 mortar weighs 7.8 kg complete. the Mk 4 'rmodel has a lanyard operated trigger whilst the earlier Mk I has the normal fixed firing pin The 60 mm has been used extensively by patrols in Namibia, being said to deliver a heavy weight of fire rapidly and effectively. ' The cross-country performance of' the sirwheeled armoure'd'Rutel vehctle\_ powered by a 6 cylinder diesel and with an 11 man crew is supposedly exceptional: the Ratel 90 gun hasai reported range 6f 2.200 m, The armoured infantry and the armoured car units that use it. are. said to believe that it has proved more than a match for the Soviet Armoured vehicles. The 20 mm gun on the Ratel 20 combines with the' medium machine gun gives the infantry section fire support capability. The SAMIL range of vehicles have been designed to meet the needs of the Forees in the rugged terrain of SW Africa being so built that aimut 85% Of the' components are interchangeable. The vehicles fall mm m;- three categories of thc SAMIL 20. 50 and 100. The SAMIL 20 is a light weight vehicle used for troupe carrying. smres. commandposm."

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cummunicatinns. general duties. The 50 is the standarJ (uCU Cai truck with mzlml' hmiy variants from pantry wagon to tanker 2lnd 'unimnnd pm! the 100 is the heavv dutv truck .igJin mth mam k . . . .

variants. ' 1.

The Ht; 4 (7.62 x 51 mm) machine gun has as a rate of hre, Hm) rpm. The effective runge is 1,200 m and the tmnl weight is 15 kg The MC 4 is similar to :1 Bruwning. The SA Army has converted to the smaller 5.56 mm fur its future small arms and is manufacturing the R 4 JSS'JUUI rifle for use by all units which weighs 5 kg complete with :i loaded 35 rd magazine; the length with butt unfolded is 1.005 m. It has a 'Tunique spring cnntralled' firing pin system.

The SA anti-personnel mine Can be laid in the ground or in water up to one metre deepg'l'he moulded plastic body contains 57 g RDX TNT .cxplosive, the weight is .09 kg and 40 mines are carried in a plastic box. The HE anti-tank mine impacts on a load of 150 to 220 kg. It is filled with 7 "kg of RDX TNT and two mines are packed into a box. Except for the striker mechanism the mine is entirely nnn-metnllic.

The South African army today is tough, well trained and well equipped in the upininn (if many observers. The war in Namibia has given the nfficers and men the operational experience (0 hack up their theoretical training. Actual operational use has caused the development

of many of the weapons and vehicles at present in service. The arms embargo has been a blessing in disguise' to the Armed Forces say South Africans who add that it has back-fired upon those nations who agreed to take part. It is suggested that not only have they lost the South African market but now the South African armament and vehicle manufacturers are capturing some of the West's other traditional overseas markets, - .

After some ten years of operations a new generation of leaders is emerging who have a wide experience of semi-conventional operations. The emergency, it is alleged, has also provided the opportunity for an increasing number of non-whites to become involved in the defence forces which must in the future have a profound affect upon economic and social developments in the Republic.

The Army, supported by the SA Air Force, considers it is winning the war on the Angolan harder but it can never entirely defeat the SWAPO guerrillas unless they lose the support of the Angolans, Cubans and the Soviet Union. A spokesman at the SADF HQ said in February 1983 "that the military efficiency of the remaining SWAPO fighters was decreasing although they still have a hard core of fighters." He added "that even these trained men have less stomach for the fight than in previous times because the successes of the SA raids have much reduced their capability and strength."

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1311' 5.x 1-mt'cx do Ihcir hcst to.id cngagcmnts with the Angolan  
V1111 .111d thc Iuttcx do thc samc. Howcvcr SWAPO tries to involvc  
111cm 111d whcn (ht) du thc Angolan Army pcrsonncl fight wcll ifw  
Curnc'rtti although thc) prefer to discngagc Thc Cubans have not'  
fought thc SA Arm). although thcy arc emplmcd againsr thc UNITA  
rchcl torccs as a back up to thc Angolan Arm). Thcir fighting cfficicncy  
is nut hlgh but has not yet bccn fully tctcd. Thc SA Govcrnmcnt insist  
thcy art- not supplying UNITA; without this support thcy arc doing  
wcll :11111 bccoming Stronger as thc economy of Angola continues to  
dcclinc; thcy control much of thc south caSt of thc country and arc  
usually ablc to kccp thc railway to Bcngucla out of'action.  
A scttlcmcnt of thc civil war in Angola; thc granting of independ-  
cncc undcr a democratically clcctcd govcrnmcnt to Namibia/South  
West Africa and thc rcmoval of thc Cubans from Angola is in thc  
111tt'thx nt 11H cmturncd and at thc frct' world. It would rcmovc a  
burden (tn thc South African tax payer and on thcir a\_rmed forccs but  
Snulh Africans statc it is not onc which cannot bcc borne for a long  
timt' tn mmc if this provcs ncccssary. Thu Army supports t'hc Gtwcrn-  
mum in insisting that Namibia should not bc handed ovcr to SWAPO  
unlcss thcy win uan honest and properly conducted clcttit)n,'i

BOOK NOTICE

Up Thc Falklands (Iartoons from thc Royal Marines (Blandfurd Prussiv  
Poolc) 95p.

cht behind xthcn thc \$85 and landing craft Marines lcft Pools in  
Npril 1082, fcclloxs Marines. Warrant Officer Carr Cnlour Scrgcant  
Huddart and Scrgcant Webb, got to work to portray humorously in  
cartoons somt- of thc many aspects of thc Falklands cntcrprisc in a  
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