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Sawubona

IN-FLIGHT MAGAZINE



Magical
KENYA

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SAWUBONA |

Sawubona is an Nguni word meaning "greetings".

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ON THE COVER

AWAITING

MAGICAL KENYA

Few countries on earth offer as much to see and do as Kenya: timeless cultures unchanged by the modern world, pristine beaches, equatorial forests, mighty snow-capped mountains, searing deserts and endless opportunities for adventure and discovery. Africa's Great Rift Valley runs from Israel to Mozambique. This 35 million-year-old natural phenomenon offers some of the most breathtaking scenery on earth – spectacular glaciers, volcanoes, depressions and lakes. The Great Rift Valley is also renowned for its unique ecosystem, sustaining some of the finest wildlife parks in Africa.

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THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC

THE CAPE TOWN MILITARY TATTOO 2012

Article: Mrs Regine Lord – Pictures: Mrs Regine Lord and B & L Best

The Cape Town Military Tattoo 2012 was held at the old Castle of Good Hope from Wednesday, 31 October until Saturday, 3 November 2012.

This year's theme – "A Tribute to the Military Musicians" – was perfectly encapsulated in the familiar ABBA song, "Thank you for the Music". While performing this song, the massed military bands formed the letters of the word MUSIC.

Bandsmen have always been part of the military, transmitting and relaying calls in the field, warning the garrison of danger, and notifying soldiers of parades. The drummer on the Castle's Leerdam Bastion used to recall off-duty soldiers to their barracks, by ordering tavern-keepers to "Doe den tap toe" (Close the taps on your beer-barrels) – a nightly ritual that evolved into the military musical spectacle known as a 'tattoo'.

Spectators witnessed the firing of historic muzzle-loading long-arms and 200-year-old two-pounder ship's cannons. The saluting troop of Cape Field Artillery demonstrated how dramatically gunfire from their GV1

25-pounder guns could be incorporated into Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture – the signature act of the Cape Town Military Tattoo.

Het Historisch Tamboerkorps der Koninklijke Marechaussee (the Historical Drum Corps of the Royal Dutch Military Police) from the Netherlands gave a glimpse of Dutch military history. They played the side drum used by infantry regiments and the traditional cavalry trumpet or bugle that signalled the charge of horse regiments into battle.

Bagpipers too have a long history in the military. The mighty power of the pipes can inspire troops to charge into battle, strike terror into the hearts of the enemy, and soulfully lament the loss of those who have given their lives.

The SA Navy's Silent Drill Squad, smartly clad in black and white uniforms and twirling their rifles in perfect sync, showed that precision drill movements could be controlled entirely by drumbeat.

Bandsmen are often trained soldiers, serving alongside their comrades both

in peacetime and in war. Teams from the Cape Town Highlanders and the Cape Field Artillery, assisted by several bandsmen, executed deployment and firing drills for the 81 mm M3 mortar.

The three youth groups that participated in the Tattoo were the Westcott Primary School Instrumental Group in Diep River with recorders, Orff instruments and Djembe drums, the Senior Steel Band of Wynberg Boys' High School playing a selection of mellow music, and the lovely long-legged lasses of the Celtic Dance Tapestry and the Claddagh Studio who awed spectators with their dancing routines.

Planning for the 2013 Cape Town Military Tattoo has already commenced. The theme will be – "A Tribute to the Men from the Skies". The tattoo will be presented at the Castle of Good Hope in Cape Town during the last week of October 2013.

For more information visit :
www.capetattoo.co.za or contact
 (021) 787 1162/1167/1198 or
 email: johan.conradie@dod.mil.za



Members of the Congo-Brazzaville Army Band performing a lovely musical item.



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Pipes and drums of Cape Field Artillery.



Cape Field Artillery firing a Salute



SA Army Band Cape Town