

MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS



***NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

***QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

QUESTION NO: 1725

**REPLY RECOMMENDED BY:
MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS:MP**

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Dr P J Groenewald (FF Plus) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:
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(1) Whether air support was rendered by the SA National Defence Force during the floods in KwaZulu-Natal; if not, why not; if so, (a) what type of aircraft and/or helicopter was used, (b) on what date was each aircraft and/or helicopter used and (c) what was the nature of each specified application;

(2) Whether she will make a statement on the matter?

REPLY:

1(a) & (b) The report on Operation Chariot during the KZN floods. During the floods in the KZN Province the SANDF was mobilized to support the efforts towards disaster relief.

The employment of the SAAF force elements was guided by the Directive (Joint Operations Division Directive No. 07/2022 dated 14 April 2022), Instruction (Joint Operational Headquarters Instruction No. 58/2022) and inclusive of the Air Support Request from Joint Tactical Headquarters KZN dated 12 April 2022 as received from Joint Operations Headquarters.

Upon the receipt of these Directives and Instruction, the SAAF populated SAAF Ops Order 40/22 OP CHARLOT, assets were then allocated to Joint Tactical Headquarters KZN and the following aircrafts and helicopters are deployed in KZN:

S/No	Type of Aircraft/Helicopter	Date	Total Deployed
1	Oryx (H)	14 April 2022	1
2	BK117 (H)	13 April 2022	2
3	A109 (H)	14 April 2022	1
4	Caravan (A)	20 April 2022	2

- a) 2x BK117 Helicopters and 1 x Mobile Air Operations Team on 13 April 2022 – Search and Rescue (SAR) Mission.
- b) 1 x Oryx (AS32) and 1x A109 (Augusta) Helicopters on 14 April 2022-SAR Mission.
- c) 2x C208 (Caravan) Fixed wing on 20 April 2022- SAR Mission.

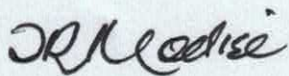
1(c) Taskings allocated to the SAAF assets on daily to perform either of the following:

- i. Search and Rescue Operations (Receiving of bodies).
- ii. Support to relief efforts (Distribution of Humanitarian Aid).
- iii. Trooping of SAPS members and Aerial Reconnaissance.

2. On the 18th April 2022, H.E. President Ramaphosa delivered a statement to the nation on the declaration of a natural state of disaster to respond to the widespread flooding that affected the KwaZulu – Natal and Eastern Cape

On the 19th April 2022, The Minister of Defence and Military Veterans, Hon. TR Modise held a televised interview with Newsrooms Africa to discuss the deployment of 10 000 Soldiers to assist in response and relief operations in KwaZulu – Natal and other parts of the country that were affected by the flooding.

Furthermore, The Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JCPS) Cluster lead by Minister Modise and Minister Cele held a media briefing on the 21st April 2022 on government's response, intervention and relief operations in the wake of the devastating floods that had led to loss of lives, untold damage to homes and infrastructure in the KZN, EC and other parts of the country that as affected by the floods.



(T.R. MODISE)
MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS: MP

DATE: 19. 05. 2022