

**MINISTRY OF DEFENCE & MILITARY VETERANS**

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN REPLY**

**2321. Mr S J F Marais (DA) to ask the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans:**

(1) Whether, with reference to land borders being monitored and patrolled by the 15 sub-units, 70% of our borders are monitored and/or patrolled by Reserve Force members; if not, what are the relevant details;

(2) what (a) are the age groups and (b) is the number of Reserve Force members who belong to the specified age groups;

(3) whether the budget for the Reserve Force has been cut; if so, (a) was this cut by 30% and (b) how will the objectives still be optimised;

(4) whether a budget cut will affect the (a) protection and (b) increased risks of our land borders; if so, what are the relevant details? NW2566E

REPLY:

# a. Rank Group differs from 21 to 68 years of age.

# b. Age 21 2 x Members

# Age 23 6 x Members

# Age 24 19 x Members

# Age 25 16 x Members

# Age 26 48 x Members

# Age 27 47 x Members

# Age 28 56 x Members

# Age 29 56 x Members

# Age 30 42 x Members

# Age 31 48 x Members

# Age 32 40 x Members

# Age 33 60 x Members

# Age 34 42 x Members

# Age 35 35 x Members

# Age 36 40 x Members

# Age 37 33 x Members

# Age 38 22 x Members

# Age 39 28 x Members

# Age 40 40 x Members

# Age 41 48 x Members

# Age 42 58 x Members

# Age 43 61 x Members

# Age 44 39 x Members

# Age 45 85 x Members

# Age 46 50 x Members

# Age 47 34 x Members

# Age 48 33 x Members

# Age 49 49 x Members

# Age 50 40 x Members

# Age 51 27 x Members

# Age 52 18 x Members

# Age 53 20 x Members

# Age 54 11 x Members

# Age 55 19 x Members

# Age 56 9 x Members

# Age 57 6 x Members

# Age 58 2 x Members

# Age 59 6 x Members

# Age 60 7 x Members

# Age 61 2 x Members

# Age 62 2 x Members

# Age 63 2 x Members

# Age 64 3 x Members

# Age 65 1 x Members

# Age 68 1 x Members

# Question 3: whether the budget for the Reserve Force has been cut; if so (a) was this cut by 30% and (b) how will the objectives still be optimised?

# REPLY:

# The budget reduction for Reserve Fore utilization in the DOD had not impact on the deployments such as Op CORONA. Currently the Force Providers provide additional Reserve Force members than budgeted for.

# Question 4: whether a budget cut will affect the (a) protection and (b) increased risks of our land borders; if so, what are the relevant details?

REPLY:

# Force Providers cannot commit themselves with the current ratio of 2/3 Regular Force members (66.6%) and 1/3 Reserve Force members (33.3%) for Op CORONA. Currently Joint Operations Division receives 46% + Reserve Force members. If a budget cut in Op CORONA occurs, the risk will be several critical vacant posts; impact on the safe-guarding of the borders, medical support to deployed members and protection cannot be executed.