

Internal Communication Digest (ICD)

Welcome to the Defence Forces' Internal Communication (IC) Digest.

The Defence Forces Internal Communications Team, will deliver accurate and timely information of interest to our members in order to increase awareness on current and future developments across the organisation.

This monthly ICD along with all DF social media platforms and our online 'Member's Area' will allow information of interest to be distributed across the DF. Our Member's Area on www.military.ie, has been launched to allow personnel to access information while off-site.

For further information on matters which directly affect you, or if you wish to feature in next month's issue please e-mail feedback@defenceforces.ie.

December / January News & Notices

Reserve News – Military First Responder CSE - 01 FEB 2020 - 2 BTC

J7 HOTO Pack - The DF Handover-Takeover (HOTO) pack has been designed to ensure that when handing over appointments the most important details along with specific rolls of responsibility's are thoroughly discussed and effectively transferred. The physical version is available through all G1 cells while a digital version is available on IKON by searching 'HOTO Pack' and downloading as a PDF.

DF HOTO pack is available and applicable to all DF members.

Training and Education

- 461 Recruits and 96 Cadets were inducted to the Defence Forces and began their military training in 2019.
- 166 Defence Forces personnel completed Honours Degree courses, through Continuous Professional Development programmes.
- 1,051 Skill Courses were conducted by you in 2019 with 13,412 student days developing and maintaining our capabilities.
- 601 students underwent 35 Career courses, developing their leadership, planning and decision making skills.

Chief of Staff's Christmas Message

2019 has been a difficult year for the Defence Forces. I am proud of the hard work conducted both domestically and overseas by you all. As we fulfil our tasks, we acknowledge the incredible support of our families.

In the New Year, we will begin again with renewed determination. With our current shortages in mind, we will take measures to ensure that we are more streamlined and more cohesive for the collective benefit of all our personnel. We also remember those who have died in service this year and their families.



Army

- The Army conducted over 195 Aid to the Civil Power Operations in support of An Garda Síochána involving Explosive Ordnance Disposal (Bomb Squad) call outs, Prisoner Escorts, Explosive Escorts, major Cash Escorts and Search Operations.
- We deployed in excess of 2,614 personnel in support of State Visits including the high profile of POTUS and VPOTUS.
- Approximately 1,900 of you underwent overseas pre-deployment mission readiness training.

2019 Review

Below is a snapshot of some of the highlights from Defence Forces activities this year that gives a flavour of the range of tasks undertaken by the Defence Forces in 2019.

*Statistics quoted are provisional to date and are subject to finalisation in the 2019 Annual Report which will be published in early 2020.



Overseas

International Operations

- In 2019, Defence Forces personnel served in overseas United Nations, NATO PfP, EU and OSCE Peace Support and security operations spread across 14 missions and 13 countries.
- The Defence Forces commenced its first deployment to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) in September 2019.
- During 2019, the Defence Forces deployed one ordnance officer, on three occasions, as a member of the Joint Technical Group on Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (JTGDDR) to Mozambique.
- In August 2019, ten personnel deployed as part of the FHQ Staff with the EUBG 2020-2 to Stadtallendorf, Germany.



Air Corps

- The Air Corps conducts Maritime Defence and Security Operations in Ireland's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ). The Air Corps conducted in excess of 130 Maritime Surveillance Patrol flights in 2019.
- The Air Corps completed more than 233 Emergency Aeromedical Services missions supporting the HSE in providing a medical service for seriously ill patients in isolated rural communities.
- The Air Corps provided 32 inter hospital Air Ambulance service support to the HSE in response to time critical medical emergencies. 20 of these flights required patient delivery to UK or mainland Europe.

Ceremonial Contributions

The Defence Forces participated in more than 50 significant military and State ceremonial Events in 2019.

Including the 103rd anniversary of the Easter Rising at the GPO, the 1916 Leaders Commemoration at Arbour Hill and at the National Day of Commemoration at the Royal Hospital, Kilmainham.



The Defence Forces Remembrance Ceremony was held at The National Memorial, Merrion Square in December to remember those members of the Defence Forces who have given their lives in the service of the State.

Naval Service

- As the States principal sea going agency, the Naval Service conducts maritime defence and security operations within a patrol area of 220 million acres of sea (over 12 times the land mass of Ireland), representing 15% of Europe's fisheries.
- The fleet conducted approximately 780 boarding operations and detained 12 vessels for alleged infringements of fishing regulations in support of the Sea Fisheries Protection Authority.
- The Naval Service Diving Section were deployed for 26 operations in 2019 including 4 separate search and recovery operations following requests from An Garda Síochána, and 2 requests from the Coast Guard.

Changes in GANBO – 1 Jan 2020

The Management Committee of CAFNBO is delighted to inform the members of GANBO that they have entered into an agreement with Irish Life to underwrite the GANBO/GACBO Schemes from 01 Jan 2020 to 31 Dec 2024.

If you have any queries contact: CAFNBO House, 33 Infirmary Road, Dublin 7. Ph 01 6711841 / email: info@cafnbo.ie

For full article details see our Member's Area on - www.military.ie/en/member's-area/

Are you a Member? ANSAC Credit Union

ANSAC Credit Union wish to advise that they'll be waiving the €10 Annual Fee on their EZ Bill Pay Service during January for new subscribers. Heavily endorsed by existing users, it takes the hassle out of having to pay bills individually and makes budgeting far easier.



For more: www.ansaccu.ie/Ez-Bill-Pay-Service

Recent DF Flickr Uploads

Available to view www.flickr.com/photos/dfmagazine/albums



Following the DF into 2020

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