

MEDIA RELEASE	PSA condemns SANDF Tekbase security breach: Raises national safety concerns
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The Public Servants Association (PSA) expresses the Union's extreme concern and unequivocal condemnation of the recent security breach at the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) Tekbase facility at Lyttelton Military Base in Pretoria, where multiple R4 rifles and 40 mm rocket launchers were reportedly stolen.

This alarming incident represents a failure of internal controls and a significant threat to national security. The theft of high-grade military weaponry raises urgent questions about the integrity of security systems at SANDF facilities and the accountability of those entrusted with safeguarding these critical assets. This incident is not isolated. It follows closely after the 2025 theft at Bloemspruit Air Force Base, where serious lapses in security infrastructure, including broken alarm systems and unmonitored surveillance, were cited as contributing factors. The recurrence of such breaches points to systemic weaknesses that require immediate and decisive intervention.

The PSA is alarmed by the implications of these failures. If heavily guarded military installations can be compromised so easily, what assurances can be given to the citizens of South Africa regarding their safety? The potential circulation of military-grade weapons in the public domain poses a direct and unacceptable risk to communities.

The PSA calls on the SANDF leadership and the Department of Defence to conduct an urgent comprehensive audit of security systems across all military bases. Those responsible must be held accountable for negligence or complicity in these breaches. Robust, modernised surveillance and access control systems must be implemented. Internal vetting processes must be strengthened to prevent insider threats.

The also PSA urges Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Defence and Military Veterans to exercise rigorous oversight and ensure that corrective measures are implemented without delay. South Africans deserve a defence force that is disciplined, secure, and capable of protecting its assets and citizens. Continued failures of this nature erode public trust and compromise the mandate of the SANDF. The PSA will continue to monitor developments closely and advocate for accountability and reform in the interest of public safety.

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