



2nd EDITION YOUR BI-ANNUAL PUBLICATION JULY 2024 **FREE COPY** Police Equipment
Modernization
Kicks Off

Prof Kithure Kindiki Commissions The First Batch of Police Modernization Equipment

**BEHIND THE ENEMY LINES** 

**BESIDES GUNS AND BOOTS** 

DEATH SHIELD







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### **WELFARE**

Moral Contentment Assured as GSU Chepchoina Base Camp Mess is Opened



## THE NORTH-RIFT ODYSSEY

My Experience In Countering Banditry



## SPORTS POWER-HOUSE

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### EDITORIAL TEAM

#### **Executive Editor**

Mr. Eliud Lagat

#### **Editorial Chair**

Mr. Bashane Omar

#### **Chief Editor**

Ms Judy Kalondu

#### Editor

IP Paul Gitau

#### Photographers

IP Kennedy Muthui PC Ezekiel Muthoka PC Vincent Kipkemoi PC Wycliffe Moracha PC Elvis Minjire

### Layout & Design

Edward Njuguna njuguna.edward@gmail.com

#### **Editorial Board**

Mr Bashane Omar, AIG Ms Judy Kalondu, CP Mr Joshua Kasoka, SSP CI Francis Kafue IP Paul Gitau

#### Writers

Mr Jeremy Ndegwa CI Francis Kafue IP Paul Gitau Sgt. Samson Lenana PC Ezekiel Muthoka PC Sammy Sagat PC Victor Ongeri PC Eric Mwangi Ms Caroline Wangui Justus Mbogori



### **CONTACTS**



magazine@gsu.go.ke



Tel: +254 208563733-8 Fax: +254 20 8560404



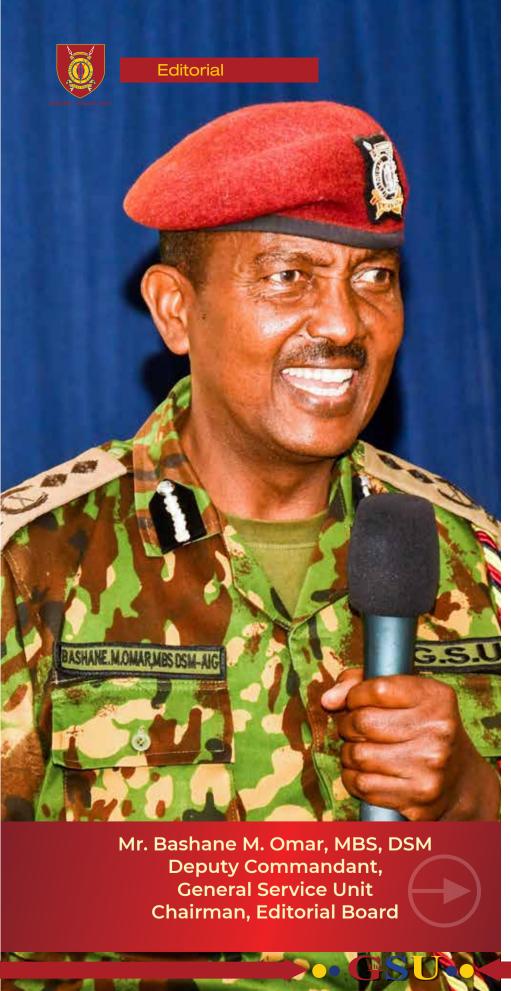
**GSU HEADQUARTERS** P.O BOX 49506-00100, NAIROBI.

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## Editorial

t gives me great pleasure to present to you the 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of our publication, The GSUmagazine. This production has been inspired by the positive feedback from our readers in our first edition and also the endeavor to keep telling the story of the GSU. We give you captivating and informative stories in this edition as we keep you updated on what the elite paramilitary unit does in the broader policing realm.

In this edition's main story, we give our readers a detailed coverage on the introduction of modern policing equipment that is, armoured vehicles into the field operations of the National Police Service (NPS). The story highlights the provision of mine resistant ambush protected (MRAP) and armored personnel carrier (APC) vehicles into the fleet of the operational units of the NPS as they navigate through the frontline. armored vehicles are part of the government's plan in a Sh37 billion five-year Police Equipment Modernization program to equip and protect officers in the frontline.

Still in the main story, get a glimpse of how a GSU patrol team survived an improvised explosive device (IED) attack at Boni forest by the shield of their MRAP vehicle and afforded them to fight their way out of the ambush, which would have otherwise been catastrophic. Also get to know how the operations of the GSU have been revolutionized by the deployment of armored vehicles as the officer in-charge of operations gives his insight in a candid interview.

In the story of 'Behind the Enemy Lines,' you will get a Hollywood movie-like story of Mr Peter Kiveeleti as he battled fiercely in a deadly bandit ambush at Kainuk. In an encounter that looks surreal akin to a fictional episode when told, Kiveeleti and his team fell into a gunfire contact as he was on anti-banditry dominance

patrol. His training, battle experience and fighting skills came in handy as he fought his way out despite being outgunned. The story best captures the harrowing experience of officers as they offer themselves selflessly to the service of the public.

country. Whereas sporadic acts of terrorism had been witnessed before in the country, they were not as active as it has been in the recent past. In the story 'Regaining Boni Forest', we look at the genesis of terror activities in Lamu due to the advantage offered by the expansive Boni forest affording a launching pad by terror groups. We delve into the rewarding effort by the security services in multi-agency synergy and their collaboration with the local communities in the concerted fight against violent extremism and terrorism.

The story also looks at the success from the concerted partnerships affording Lamu to roar back resoundingly in economy-impacting infrastructural development boosting community cohesion, trade and business in the tourism rich coastal area.

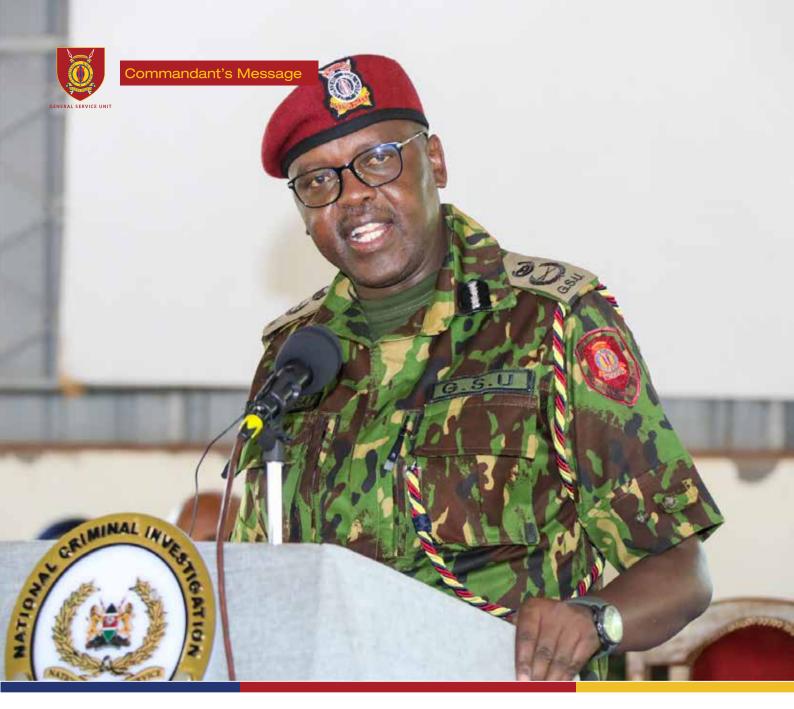
This production has been inspired by the positive feedback from our readers in our first edition and also the endeavor to keep telling the story of the GSU

Everyone wants to make it in life to succeed and live a quality life. That is not the case for many people; civil servants and disciplined officers included, as many of them are not sufficiently informed on financial aspects. In a bid to change that narrative, we bring you an informative story of a GSU officer, Sgt Abednego Mutuku who learnt the art of starting small and has succeeded over time in pixie farming that has changed his fortunes, affording him to live a quality life. The story is aimed to inform and motivate our officers to build themselves in their private life as they provide their service to the people of Kenya.

Security services have sustained their offensive against radicalization, violent extremism and the threat of terrorism in the

As you wind up reading the magazine, the General Service Unit has been a known sports house engaging in various sporting activities. Some of the sporting activities had died a natural death to the detriment of many officers. On our sports segment, read about how the GSU Commandant has revived sports and games in the Unit in the bid to improve the welfare of his officers, develop talents and build competitive teams in various sports and games.

With these and other mind catching stories I welcome you to this edition as we endeavor to keep you informed and entertained. We relish the small steps we have made and we hope to walk together with you as we keep you abreast with our coming publications.



## Commandant's Message

ecurity challenges posed by the ever-changing dynamics of crime have made it necessary to modernize the National Police Service(NPS). Consequently, the Ministry of Interior and National Administration, led by the Cabinet Secretary, Prof. Kithure Kindiki, has developed a masterplan for equipping the NPS with state of the art equipment for effective and efficient service delivery. Under this plan, the Governement has kitted the NPS with Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP)

Vehicles, and an assortment of superior weapons and equipment. The equipment is expected to enhance operational capacity by giving officers leverage in combating crime. The modernization also aims to ensure safety and protection for police officers on duty. I take this opportunity to register my sincere appreciation to the Government for this noble undertaking.

The interaction of our officers with the first edition of the GSU Magazine has been very encouraging. As you turn the pages of this second edition, I hope you can feel the impact of

The success in our operations is attributed to mission readiness, discipline, commitment to duty, morale and teamwork among our officers.

Police Service at large.

resilient and committed in our efforts

towards national security. The leadership

team and I appreciate your dedication and

the sacrifices you make each day in the

service of our Country. It is a great honour and priviledge to serve alongside each

member of the unit as we endeavour to

keep our communities safe. The success in our operations is attributed to mission

Let us remain

your work in our communities and inspire colleagues across the security sector to serve with excellence. As a unit, we are more than just a formation of the National Police Service, we represent diligence, discipline and hope. I encourage you to engage actively with the magazine and experience the life and work of a police officer through their own eyes.

In the words of Koffi Annan, "Knowledge is power, information is liberating and education is the premise of progress in every society, in every family." It is my sincere hope that as you read this edition, the information here in, will shape your attitude towards the unit and the National

readiness, discipline, commitment to duty, morale and teamwork among our officers. I also wish to assure you that my team and I have put your mental wellbeing as police officers at the centre of our operations. We have set up a mental wellness department at our headquarters in Ruaraka and I wish to encourage you to seek help when necessary. We commit to being more responsive both to our officers and the security needs of our people. We invite everyone to join hands in ensuring a safe and secure country.

As you serve, stay safe, stay strong and put our Country first.

Mr. Eliud K. Lagat , EBS, OGW, HSC, ss, 'ndc' (K) Commandant - General Service Unit (GSU)





## Police Equipment Modernization Kicks Off

Fight Against Banditry and Terrorism Gains Momentum as Prof Kindiki Commissions New Armoured Vehicles

### By Chief Inspector Francis Kafue

ecurity operations of the National Police Service against cattle rustling and terrorism have received a major boost after the government procured 25 armoured vehicles for the formed up units of the Service. The armoured vehicles fitted with roof-mounted machinegun turrets have been procured by the Ministry of Interior and National Administration in line with the Police Equipment Modernization program of the National Police Service, to improve capacity and response capabilities of the Service against security threats.

The Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration Prof Kithure Kindiki on March 20, 2024 at General Service Unit Headquarters in Ruaraka commissioned the new batch of the equipment to support security operation Maliza Uhalifu.

The South African made DCD Protected Mobility Springbuck Mine Resistant Ambush Protected- Standard Duty (MRAP SD) are expected to transform security and counterterrorism operations in the frontline areas

"

The government has invested Sh7.6 billion in the program

"





of the country. The commissioning of the new set of armoured vehicles comes at a time when the National Police Service's paramilitary units are grappling with the challenges of terror attacks in North-Eastern region and the Boni enclave and banditry in the North Rift as well as the Northern grazing area of Meru, Isiolo and Marsabit Counties.

The vehicles are set to come in handy as they are mine resistant and hardy, thus providing protective shield against offensive blasts as well as enduring the rugged terrain in the frontline areas.

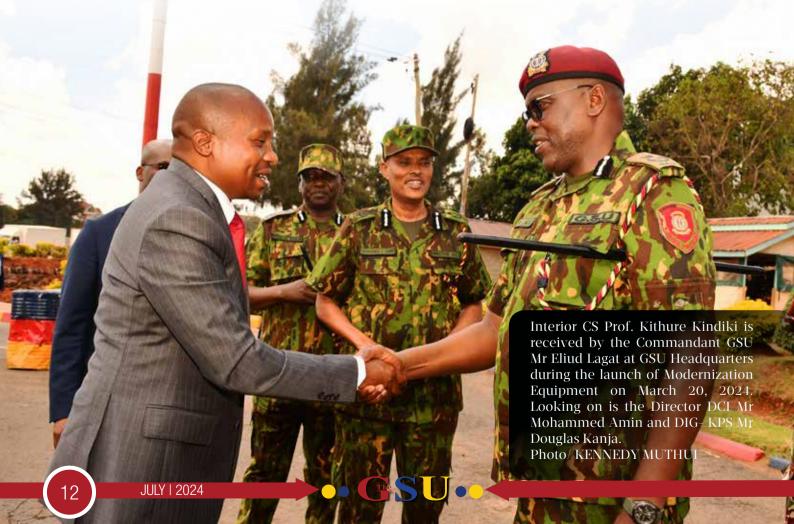
In his address during the event, the Cabinet Secretary informed the public that commissioning of the first batch was the beginning of the modernization process of the National Police Service under the new administration.

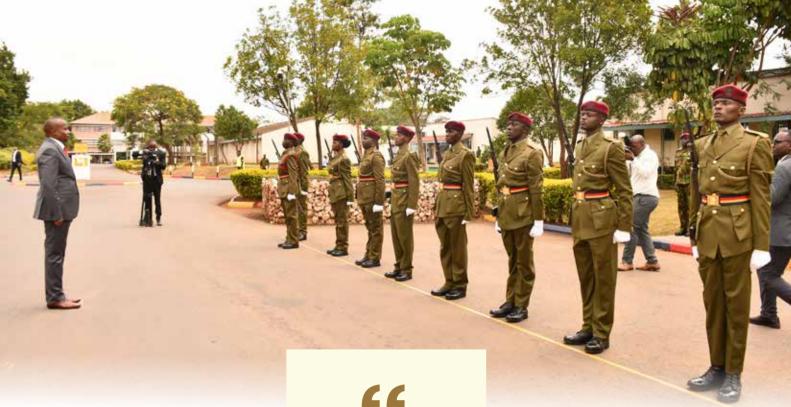
The Cabinet Secretary appreciated the great role played by His Excellency President William Ruto, in support of the organs of National Security in the Country. He cited the transfer of the operations budget of the Service from the Office of the President to the National Police Service under the

Inspector General as a great stride that would put the money to use where it is needed most without long bureaucratic delays.

He emphasized that this marks the turning point in the fight against organized crime and banditry in the country. The Cabinet Secretary stated that he is proud that this move has made his work easier. He also thanked the Principal Secretary for Interior Dr Raymond Omollo for the generation of policy solutions to the security issue in the country.

Prof. Kindiki revealed that the process has been smooth through the diligence of the Principal Secretary, who is the Ministry's accounting officer. Prof Kindiki reiterated the government's plan to increase the capability of the National Police Service through the purchase of more equipment to complement the patriotic service of police officers in the frontline including Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, Mine sweepers and Gunship Helicopters. He stated that the second batch of the MRAPs, Armoured Personnel Carriers and additional equipment would be commissioned in a month's time. The CS revealed that in the last





seven months, the government has invested Sh7.6 billion in the program and will spend another 29.4 billion shillings that will be used in the modernization of the Service over the next five years. "This will make the National Police Service sophisticated and able to fight all kinds of crimes in the country", the CS stated as he congratulated the team that was involved in the procurement process.

The Cabinet Secretary put all bandits and terrorists on notice that it will not be business as usual with them. He stated that the long-awaited solution for a peaceful country, and the moment for liberating the affected communities from organized crimes had arrived as the government will deal mercilessly with bandits and terrorists, to thwart the menaces and to take them down. While expressing his solidarity and support for the officers in the frontline, he assured them that

29.4 billion shillings will be used in the modernization of the Service over the next five years.

The Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration Prof Kithure Kindiki

the government will stand with them as they use the equipment and weapons at their disposal to neutralize the menace. The CS further expressed the commitment of his ministry in engaging with the government to get adequate resources for the kitting of the NPS officers.

The CS called for the support of all citizens in ridding the country of criminal elements among them since security is a responsibility for all. He also urged the political class to desist from politicizing the war against crime in the country and urged them to work closely with security organs to eradicate the vice since the lives of Kenyans and development of the nation depends on a peaceful nation.

In recognition of the selfless service by security officers, the CS paid tribute to the gallant officers who have paid the ultimate price with their live as well as those injured in the line of duty. He reiterated government's commitment



to the total support of their families. The CS informed the public that soon the government would launch a support fund for families of fallen officers.

As he appreciated the importance of having working partnerships in fighting crime, the CS also urged National Government Administration Officers (NGAO) and other specialized units to continue supporting the NPS in the fight against crime. He reiterated that the security sector in one big family and as such, it is important that the fight against crime be a concerted effort. The

The CS flagged off the new equipment to join the fleet of operation vehicles in the Service at North Rift and North Eastern regions

"

Cabinet Secretary thanked the Inspector General of the National Police Service Eng. Japhet Koome together with his team of able officers of all ranks in the field for their tireless effort of getting rid of crime in the Country as he assured him of his total support.

Prof Kindiki announced plans to gazette new areas of Meru North, parts of Isiolo and Samburu as disturbed areas after resurgence in cases of cattle rustling. The Principal Secretary for Interior Dr Raymond Omollo on his part expressed his joy and gratitude for being welcomed into GSU Headquarters for the first time. He assured the officers that he will work with a lot of dedication to ensure that the NPS is operationally transformed and expressed his commitment to see the full implementation of modernization program.

The PS also reiterated the ministry's effort to improve the welfare and conditions of service of police officers and confirmed that they are in consultations with other stakeholders to ensure that the Maraga Report is implemented.

The Inspector General Eng Japhet Koome on his part thanked the Cabinet Secretary for his commitment to ensuring that the country is at peace. He praised the energy of the CS, who has traversed all parts of the country to ensure they remain peaceful and tranquil. The IG gave a warning to the bandits that they will be dealt with ruthlessly according to the law. Prof Kindiki was taken through the working and operations of the Springbuck MRAP SD by the GSU Staff Officer Operations Mr Stephen Chebet, detailing the technical and structural suitability of the vehicle to the operations of the Service.

The CS flagged off the new equipment to join the fleet of operation vehicles in the Service at North Rift and North Eastern regions as line formations of tactical teams of NPS matched along affirming their readiness to make use of the new equipment in their service.

The Cabinet Secretary was accompanied by the Principal Secretary for Interior Dr Raymond

Omollo, the Inspector General Eng. Japhet N. Koome, the Deputy Inspector General – Kenya Police Service Mr Douglas K. Kirocho, the Deputy Inspector General – Administration Police Service Mr Noor Gabow, the Director, Directorate of Criminal Investigations Mr Mohamed Amin, the Commandant – GSU Mr Eliud Lagat among other senior police officers.



The IG Eng Japhet Koome having a walk chat with the Commandant GSU
Mr Eliud Lagat during the launch of Modernization Equipment on March
20, 2024 at GSU Headquarters. Photo/ KENNEDY MUTHUI





## Tour Of The Camp

he Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration Prof. Kithure Kindiki was received at the GSU Headquarters in Ruaraka by a Quarter Guard mounted in his honour by officers of Headquarters Sub-Unit. So impressive was the quarter guard display that the CS promoted three officers of various ranks to the next rank.

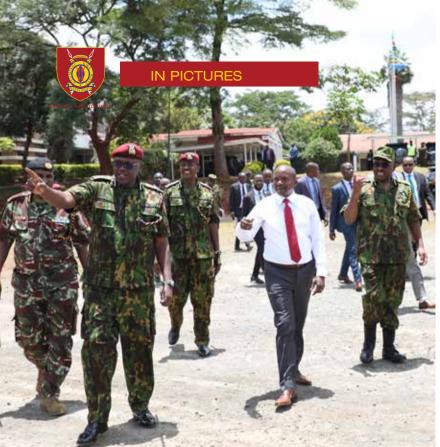
The CS got a first-hand experience of the Unit Motor Transport Workshop where he was taken through the Armoured Personnel Carriers (APCs) and MRAPs under repair after being hit by IEDs in the field. He was informed that the APCs would be deployed to the North Rift immediately the repairs are done.

Prof Kindiki also toured the Ration Processing Unit where the Compo 10 Man Ration and food stuff for the Unit is packaged. The CS reiterated his commitment to the wellbeing of officers by ensuring they are supplied with adequate food stuff.

He was taken through a display of the new equipment and accessories that were acquired together with the MRAPs. He appreciated the quality of the equipment and remarked that it will go a long way in the fight against banditry and terrorism.













Interior CS Prof. Kithure Kindiki is taken through a tour of the motor transport workshop at GSU Headquarters by Commandant GSU Mr Eliud Lagat Photo/ KENNEDY MUTHUI







Interior CS Prof. Kithure Kindiki, PS Interior
Dr Raymond Omollo, IG Eng Japhet Koome, DIG-KPS
Mr Douglas Kanja, DIG-APS Mr Noor Gabow, Director
DCI Mr Mohammed Amin and the Commandant GSU
Mr Eliud Lagat in a tour of the Ration Processing Unit
at GSU Headquarters.

Photo/ VINCENT KIPKEMOI





This proven South African-developed ballistic and landmine protected all-terrain vehicle has been built with simplicity, crew comfort and protection, and cost-effectiveness in mind. The Springbuck delivers on its promises of ease of operation, maintenance and repair, while harnessing internationally available driveline components for assured performance and parts availability.

The Springbuck derives its name from the iconic African antelope, known for its toughness and sure-footed dexterity and has been designed around the ergonomics of the driver and crew – specifically for the African market. This makes it ideal for a broad spectrum of security applications. This family of vehicles is simplistic in design, easy to operate by users, affordable (purchasing costs and life cycle costs) and can be produced in different variants (applications). The concept in design is modular and interior fits can easily be changed. Product support is supplied with professional training, the development of publications (manuals), supply of spares, implementation of Engineering Change Proposals (ECPs) and field support close to the customer.

Depending on users' requirements, the Springbuck is available as a Standard Duty (SD) version, Heavy Duty (HD) version and Xtra Duty (XD) version. The performance, payload and protection increase with each model. The Springbuck family of vehicles (Springbuck SD, HD and XD) is ideal for South Africa and the African continent. Peacekeeping missions can strategically benefit from this innovative and affordable concept.





## Commander's Perspective

## Staff Officer Operations reflects on the operations of the GSU



he General Service Unit has been a notable facet in police operations, with its deployment straddling from the north to the south end of our country, being a leading actor in suppression of terrorism, banditry and other organized criminal enterprises.

The Unit, in its deployment, has remained true to its mandate of providing quality operational services despite various operational challenges stemming from lack of sufficient operational hardware and notable milestones has been achieved in the campaign against banditry and terrorism bringing remarkable glory to the Unit.

The plan of the government to equip the Service in the Police Equipment Modernization program is a timely intervention that will revolutionize police operations. The modernization program consist a broad spectrum of equipment including armored vehicles, tactical vehicles, precision rifles, protective armour, night vision

devices, surveillance drones, and communication equipment among other equipment. The program has so far seen deployment of armored vehicles; MRAPs and APCs to the formed-up units of the National Police Service that operate in operationally disturbed areas of our country.

The armored vehicles have blended into the fleet of the General Service Unit easing the operations and response of the Unit to security threats. The Staff Officer Operations of the General Service Units, Mr Stephen Chebet, had a sit down with the editorial team and gave his remarks on the arrival of armored vehicles in the operations of the Unit.

# How have your operations been prior to the arrival of the hard-bodied vehicles?

The General Service Unit has always been responsive. We have always had our boots on the ground despite a myriad of challenges. The Unit has been a dependable force in major security

The armored vehicles have blended into the fleet of the General Service Unit easing the operations and response of the Unit to security threats.

operations notably in the North Rift and North Eastern in the operational campaigns against banditry and terrorism. We have responded to emergency security calls amidst the challenges in equipment and we have had success in our operations.

The Unit has been executing its operational mandate effectively and we have achieved great operational milestones in the inadequacies. Our





foundational and continuous training and mission readiness has been compensating for the shortages and that only tells how it will be now that we are better equipped.

# How has deployment of MRAPS and APCs improved efficiency of the GSU?

Deployment of the armored vehicles started about eight years ago and the pace has increased over the time. The equipment is ensuring that our officers are more promptly responsive to calls of duty since they can access all terrain with much ease. The MRAPs also gives the officers confidence of their safety to carry out their job effectively, which they did not have in other vehicles. The equipment is also a morale booster and for the government to live up to its commitment of equipping the Service with the armored vehicles is a major win for the officers as it guarantees their survival during enemy contact. We are able to dominate the ground, more authoritatively than before and limit the operations of the criminals.

# How is the landscape on the fight against banditry and terrorism about to change with the equipment modernization?

The assorted modern equipment is a step closer to edging out the threat of terrorism and banditry.







The General Service Unit has been playing an increasing role in the fight against terrorism and destabilization of other organized crimes and the equipment means that our capacity to respond to these security threats is up-scaled.

We will now be proactive precisely as the equipment will enable our officers to go after the criminals in their hide outs with assured low risk of injuries. The upgrading of the equipment further ensures that our offensive capabilities are enhanced, improving preeminence and effectiveness of the security services in the fight against terrorism.

# What is the future of police operations with the equipment modernization program?

The program will enhance police

operational capacities leading to

It means a win in the fight against security threats. The Service has always endeavored to have a secure society but the effort is sometimes hindered by challenges originating from lack of essential equipment. The implementation of the modernization program in full scale will ensure policing is not only seen but felt in every facet of the public.

## What is your word to the officers on the ground?

I register my sincere appreciation to every member of the GSU, especially those at far flung operational deployments. The nature of the environment they operate in is challenging but I commend them for remaining resilient and duty ready for their service to our country.

The Unit is committed to improving the general welfare of its officers and I believe the deployment of the new equipment will ease their job and will be a morale booster as they navigate through their deployment.

I urge them to remain committed to the call of duty, mission ready to offer themselves to the service of the people as it is their patriotic obligation. Maintaining security is a collective responsibility and I beseech them to maintain good working partnership with the communities around them as well as other security agencies in the spirit of multi-agency cooperation.

Lastly, discipline and professionalism are core values of the Unit. It is my call that they remain obedient to the law, rules and regulations binding them in their duty. Uphold values of honesty and integrity and preserve the good image of the Unit.







## Keep It Up!

IG Koome Commends Officers as he Assesses Operation Maliza Uhalifu

### By Constable Victor Ongeri

he Inspector General Eng Japhet Koome has applauded officers deployed on Operation Maliza Uhalifu in the North Rift for their relentless efforts in fighting the menace of cattle rustling and banditry.

Eng Koome who embarked on a working tour of security assessment of the multi-agency security operation recognized the gains made from the operation, thanking all the stakeholders for their commitment to restore calmness in the disturbed areas. While speaking at the Joint Operation Command Centre at Chemolingot, the IG commended the multi-agency security team for their dedication to duty and selfless service to their motherland. "The hardship you go through to maintain peace and stability, your commitment to eradicate banditry portrays your patriotism and love for your country. Your service is appreciated," he assured them.

The IG condemned the retrogressive practice of cattle rustling and equated it to acts of terrorism stressing that the fight against banditry will stay on until the objectives of the operation to restore normalcy are met. The IG in his working tour which started in Baringo County, met with the National Government Administration Officers (NGAO) and political leadership of the region in full realization that the war against banditry has to be fought by involving all players in the broader society. Baringo County has been the launching pad for banditry and cattle rustling activities and all efforts are being made to shed off the tag of insecurity which has kept the culturally and tourism rich county isolated. The visit also extended to Elgeyo-Marakwet County where Eng Koome met with National police





service officers based at fragmented camps in Tot. During his brief at Tot, the IG expressed his sincere appreciation for the officers' resilience in working in the multi-agency synergy and commitment to uphold professionalism, discipline and mission readiness.

Eng Koome thanked his officers for supporting the mission of the National Police Service for a safe society in the vast North Rift region. He further reiterated the need for deeper cooperation with all actors in the field of security and other important stakeholders in the society to work on a common front to achieve the objectives of the operation.

The success from the 'Operation Maliza Uhalifu' has had its fair share of challenges. The IG acknowledged the hiccups that have affected the operation and promised to address setbacks in logistics as well as looking into their welfare. He assured the officers that logistical operation support would roll progressively and the effort would be felt soon.

In concerted efforts to enhance security in other volatile areas, other multi-agency

centers have been established in Isiolo, Meru, Samburu and Laikipia to augment the Chemolingot Operation Command Center.

The security campaign against banditry in the disturbed areas of the North Rift has gained momentum with deployment of modern security

equipment and establishment of other new security camps to counter insecurity decisively. The government has equipped the officers with armoured vehicles helping them to access the hard to reach areas in their quest to maintain law and order.

Despite the little bottlenecks, Operation Maliza Uhalifu has made notable gains including return of normalcy which has facilitated reopening of business activities and boosted trade within the disturbed counties. Learning has resumed in schools which had been vandalized and closed, giving a ray of hope to the school going children.

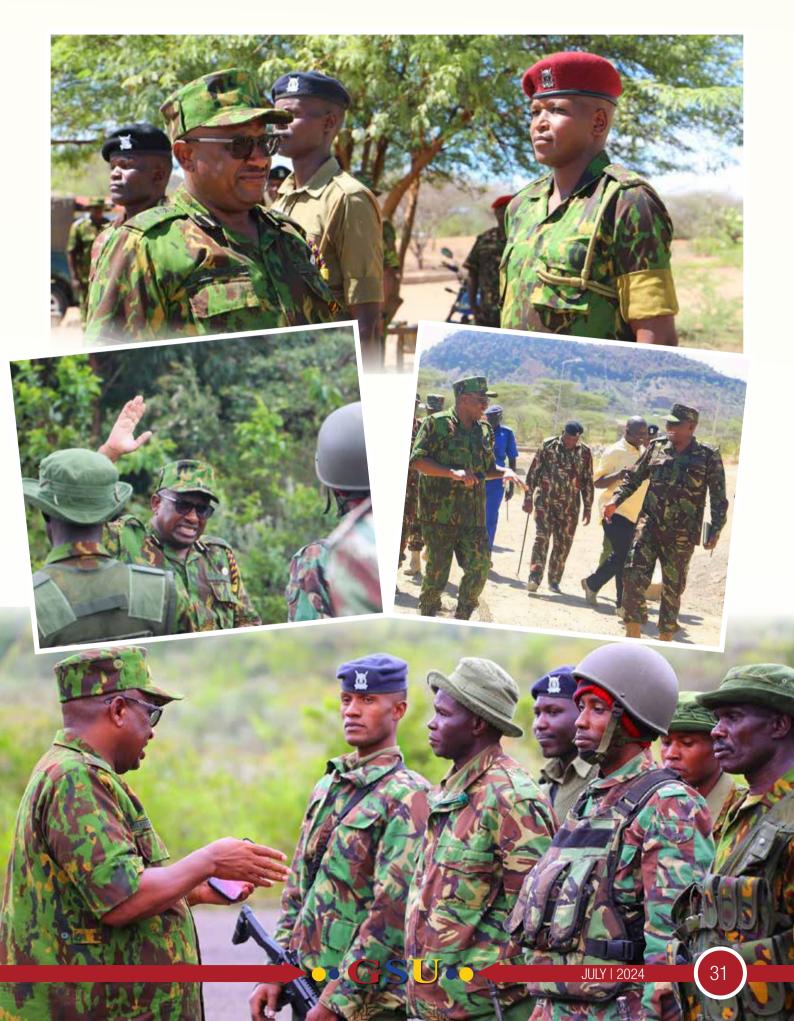
The operation has also seen recovery of over 500,000 stolen livestock and over 100 illicit firearms. The Kenya Defence Forces through the Civilian - Military Cooperation program is rehabilitating schools for learning to resume and security road network to open up the region to business and trade.



The operation has also seen recovery of over 500,000 stolen livestock and over 100 illicit firearms.











By Inspector Paul Gitau

"Oh Sovereign Lord, remember me. Oh God, please strengthen me just one more time, and let me with one blow get revenge on the Philistines for my two eyes." Judges 16:28

t remained his prayer as he took cover in a shallow ditch, when he found himself in a near death experience as gunfire rent the air, bullets flying above his head and his life on the line. Mr Peter Kiveleeti was in a familiar territory, but what he was about to encounter was not an experience to accustom to. The government had launched 'Operation Maliza Uhalifu' in the North Rift in February 2023 and the bandits were driven out from their comfort, cutting them off from their operating grounds. They had resorted to cowardly vandalizing infrastructure including schools

and sporadic attacks on public transport along the Kapenguria-Lodwar road. Kainuk had shed off the tag of battlefield and had become a major business centre bustling with life. However, the resurgence of bandit attacks was threatening to regress the thriving business activities and peace being enjoyed by locals in the area. It was against the backdrop of this setback that then Commandant GSU tasked Mr Peter Kiveleeti on an assessment mission of the within the operation area. Kiveleeti, a skilled and tactically trained officer arrived at Kainuk ASTU Camp, the multi-agency operation base covering Turkana South and West Pokot border. A hardened combat fighter, he knew exactly where to start in his mission. "I drew my operation tasks which included checking my troop's mission readiness, operation plan and general operation progress. Battles are won from preparedness and sound operation plans," he says. The next course of action was hitting the ground by dispatching patrols to dominate the ground and deny the bandits the freedom to operate. In the following days, he led reconnaissance patrols within the area. Little did he know that the calmness brought about by his patrols was to later work against him.

The bandits had gotten wind of a no-nonsense sheriff having taken over the command. They plotted against the contingent. On February 10, 2023, he planned a multi-agency dominance patrol along Kainuk-Kakong road. "I gave my orders and brief to the officers as we embarked on a joint patrol with officers from Rapid Deployment Unit, ASTU and Sub-County Commander, South," remarks Turkana Kivaleeti.

As they patrolled along, everything appeared normal from the scorching sun to the clear skies and the slow breeze. But something was amiss. The herders who are normally visible along the road were conspicuously missing.

He says, "I noticed that I could neither see the herders whom I had spotted in the previous days along the same area nor their cows in the bushes. My instincts convinced me all was not well". While appreciating the potential danger he put his men on alert and signaled the rear vehicles to follow suit.

After a short distance while still conversing instinctively with his thoughts, they encountered an ambush. The patrol came under intense gunfire from suspected bandits pinning them down. The team returned fire to fight their way out of the ambush. As the officers engaged the bandits in a firefight, Kiveeleti ordered his scout to launch their drone. The drone's view was informative and devastating as well. "They had a detailed killing plan against us. The cattle had been pushed back out of the possible



line of fire near the gorges. The bandits had mounted a linear ambush in five groups along the road. Our escape was limited", he notes. He sent a contact report to the operations room and requested for reinforcement. Kiveeleti being an experienced commander quickly appreciated the situation by the advantage of having located their positions. The option was to move the troops from the ambush area in small numbers.

The bandits had mounted a linear ambush in five groups along the road. Our escape was limited.



As the fire exchange remained intense, he ordered his men to change their position to give them a better fighting point. He remarks, "I quickly changed the position together with two other officers to where we could easily sight another group of attackers hiding in waiting. We engaged them swiftly as other attackers kept swarming in into the position." As he kept engaging the enemy to his front, little did he know that he had been choked to the rear by another group of bandits. He had to defend himself from the front and the rear. It was a difficult tactical situation indeed. Kiveeleti, a skilled sniper who has won in different shooting competitions in his career knew that it was another time to put his skills into actual use. "In the prevailing situation I had to make every





release of my shot count. I would pull the trigger every time I had a clear shot. I didn't miss a shot", he remarks.

But covering his front and rear was not easy. Turning back and front exposed his position and he became a clear target of a concealed enemy. He suffered two gunshot hits to his stomach which pushed him to the ground. Luckily, the bullets hit his bullet proof vest and it was a sigh of relief for him. It was too close. "I knew I was cornered, outnumbered and out gunned. I discerned that my next move would determine my fate; either live or die. I had been lying for about a minute or so and probably they thought I was down. I held my gun with a tight grip ready for a swift turn to my rear with a clear shot. I turned hastily and had clear shots at the enemy before I was hit again," he recalls.

As he turned to cover his front, he was hit on his chin shattering his lower jaw open and throwing his six front teeth out. His lower jaw was literally divided into two at the chin. He went to the ground again bleeding profusely and in pain. For an ordinary person, it would have been a moment of giving up the fight. But alas!

Giving up to the enemy is never in Kiveeleti's philosophy. He was determined to fight either to his last breath or to the last of his bullets.

Though outnumbered and outgunned, surrendering was not an option. It was cowardly, especially to an unconventional enemy. It is never an open course tactic in the battle field for any fighting unit. He remarks, "I am not trained to surrender.

putting up a fight, my gun in my hands to the last of my bullets than give myself up. They'd kill

I'd rather die honorably

you anyway."

While expressing a desirable composure in such an adrenaline rushing situation, he prepared himself for what he thought was his last fight. "I reloaded my gun with a fresh magazine and lav in wait. I did not want to think what would happen when I rise. I was only determined to put up a fight to the last of whatever would be. As I lay in

wait, I heard them approaching towards my position. I knew this was the moment to fight my way out or the fate have its way. From their audible voices, I could tell they were about twenty metres from my position. I rose up with much energy, my aim sighted clearly on them, with each squeeze of my trigger sending them down one by one," recollects Kiveeleti. The sun had already set.

The pale tint of orange was fading away at the horizon and it was dusk. Darkness

was slowly creeping in.

The other team at the initial ambush was still exchanging fire. Amidst the pain of his shattered mouth, Kiveeleti noted that gunfire towards his position had ceased. He knew he had to control the bleeding otherwise he would suffer shock.

He crawled tactically towards a nearby thicket to get a better cover from view. Blood oozing from his wound was drawing a line on the ground as he crawled to his new position. In what would rightly fit

in an episode of a Hollywood movie, he recounts, "I removed my smartphone and took a screenshot of my face to see the extent of the wound. It was bad. I removed my individual first aid kit (IFAK) and applied dressing on the wound and held it in place with an adhesive bandage. To apply pressure on the wound to control the profuse bleeding

her. He scanned the surrounding and assured himself he was safe, at least for a while. He was wrong! The attackers were still after him. "I was leaning on the stem of the thicket cover facing the open ground in front. I saw five men at my initial position following the blood spatter on the ground and advancing towards my position.

I am not trained to surrender. I'd rather die honorably putting up a fight, my gun in my hands to the last of my bullet than give myself up. They'd kill you anyway.

and to hold the shattered chin together, I fastened the strap of my ballistic helmet to the chin. It was painful but it was the only way. My mouth was numb and in pain. I could not speak as my lower jaw could not move." At the little calmness of the moment, he knew he had to communicate to his command and to his family. He dimmed the light of his phone and texted his brother. He shelved the idea of texting his wife as he did not want to scare

I knew they were after me. Luckily I had the advantage of cover from their view. I took aim and waited until they were close enough to open fire. I did the obvious, neutralizing them. I contemplated getting their firearms but again thought the movement would sell me out. I remained in the position," he recollects.

Much was crossing his mind as darkness had already set in. He could not dare move. He could hear exchange of fire by the other team. They were about forty meters away from him but it seemed miles away. Gunfire was still rending in the air.

Moving from his cover could be fatal. In that moment of reinforcement despair. Kainuk multi-agency operation base arrived in two Armored Personnel Carriers much to the relief of the officers. The APCs provided cover as the officers boarded and rescued them from the ambush. As Kiveeleti boarded he was escorted by heavy gunfire from the tail of the linear ambush but got in safely. They drove safely to Kainuk hospital for treatment.

He was administered first aid at Kainuk hospital and later ferried to Reale Hospital in Eldoret for further medical treatment after which he was airlifted to Reale Hospital, Kiambu for specialized treatment.

Mr Kiveleeti expressed admirable composure in the battlefield, an attribute that enabled him to survive the ambush. Despite losing three officers in the contact, his appreciation to fragment his team enabled them to counter the ambush and at the same time afforded a lean team of his officers to get out of the killing area, rush to camp and come back with the reinforcement. The ordeal of the ambush which lasted for five hours was a bloodrushing experience that required great precision that only battle hardened officers like Kiveleeti could put up with.







# Besides Guns & Boots

The Insightful Story of an Officer who has Ventured into Pixie Farming

By Inspector Paul Gitau and Constable Victor Ongeri

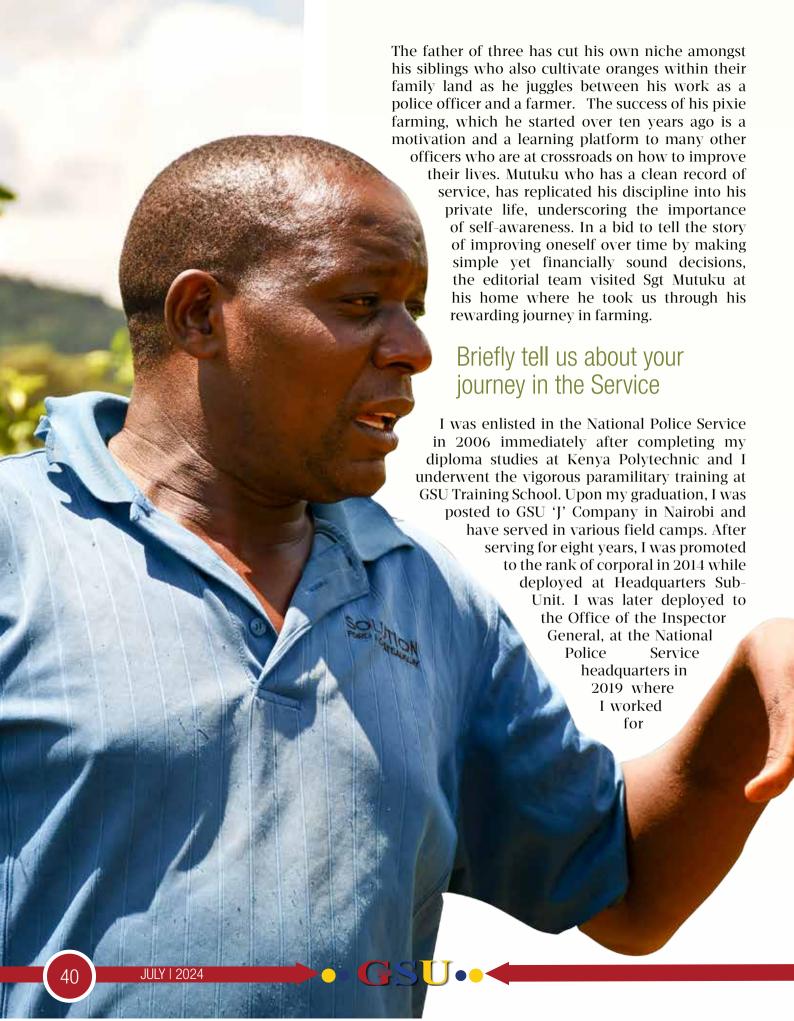
is demeanor depicts an ordinary person, just any other police officer. But behind the cool character lies a man whose simple efforts have elevated his fortunes. Meet Sergeant Abednego Mutuku, a GSU officer who has understood practically the making of hay while the sun shines.

Whereas many civil servants and disciplined officers struggle to have stable side ventures to supplement their income, Sgt. Mutuku pursued a simple venture in pixie farming which he has built over time into a stable and income generating side hustle.

Within the ridges of Ikangavya village in Wote, Makueni County lies a 5 acre farm imposed against the scenic view of Nzaui hills. The ever-green farm in the semi-arid area is the toiling ground for Sgt. Mutuku when he is away from the tussle and bustle of his job as a GSU officer attached to the National Counter Terrorism Centre.







one year until 2020 when I was promoted to the rank of Sergeant. I am currently attached to the National Counter Terrorism Centre.

What motivated you to start pixie farming?

I grew up in a family of farmers where farming was the main activity that supported our livelihood. Our parents inculcated farming skills in us at a young age and we developed great affection for it. My late father had started orange farming and had given each of us five orange trees to nurture. He would also provide seedlings for us and we grew up with farming instincts.

I also loved agriculture since my days at Malooi primary school. My agriculture teacher, Mr Mutunga encouraged me since he was also doing orange farming. In addition, I have passion for farming and I love fruits which is my greatest intrinsic motivation for pixie farming. I also wanted to supplement my income and try to live a better life.

How did you start in terms of

funding, land size and plant population?

I grew up in a family of farmers where farming was the main activity that supported our livelihood.

I planted my first 20 seedlings in 1999 when I was still a student at Kathonzweni High School. I planted a more in 2012 which were only sufficient for the local market and home consumption. After thorough planning and seeing how my siblings were doing in their farms, I decided to venture into pixie farming in small scale. I took a small loan of Sh150,000 in 2015 which I used to buy seedlings and on other related expenses. I planted 250 seedlings which I looked after and they did so well. After seeing the good results, I decided to expand and planted 250 more seedlings in 2019 during COVID-19 pandemic using proceeds from my initial project. My project is now spread in about 5 acres which is family land I inherited from my father. I keep on adding more trees and I currently have about 1,000 trees at various stages. The farm is now self-sustaining and I don't have to take a loan for expansion unless when doing major farm improvements.

What varieties do you have in your farm?

We used to have normal orange variety in our farm but I have since introduced other varieties such as washington navel, minora and tangerine (sandara) oranges. I however specialize in pixies oranges in large scale since it is sweet, has high demand in the market and good returns. I love fruits and have





others such as mangoes, pawpaws and bananas. I also plant maize and beans to feed my family.

### What made you venture in farming and not any other business?

I have great passion in farming but besides the passion, farming has low risks compared to other businesses. It is easy to monitor, manage and supervise even while away. I figured that my work as a police officer would not allow me to pursue any other business due to time constraints. It was

a venture that was easy for me to delegate supervision and still have it running just fine. It was also good for me to venture into an area in which I had prior experience rathe than venturing in a b<mark>usiness</mark> I have little information and risk losing money. Farm produce has a ready market since demand the always high especially in urban

How is the market for your oranges?

The market is readily available in many parts of the country including Nairobi, Mombasa, Nakuru and other areas. I sell the oranges from the comfort of my farm, which saves me the struggle of taking them to the market by myself, shielding me from transport expenses and other related costs and risks. I harvest the remaining few and deliver to my customers on demand.

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## How rewarding is orange farming to you?

Venturing into farming is a decision that I have never regretted. It is a rewarding venture as it feeds my family and enables me to afford them quality life. It has improved my financial status and I doubt whether it would have been possible if I was fully dependent on my salary. I am able to comfortably settle most of my bills using returns from my farm and it has saved me from the yoke of unnecessary debts. Orange farming has two harvesting seasons in a year and with market

> factors such as demand, price and quality remaining constant, I make good returns each season. My projection is to increase acreage, improve fruit quality, and aim for an annual six figure return in five years' time.

> > How do you balance between your police work and farming?

Farming does not require much of my presence and I have farmhands who do most of the work. I also have a supporting wife who is hands-on on the farm. In addition, I visit my farm on off-days and when on leave.

I am a disciplined police officer who takes

my police work seriously.

### What challenges have you faced in fruit farming?

Fruit farming, just like any other business has its fair share of challenges. The production cost is high when you factor in cost such as, farm inputs and labour. Oranges are affected by common aphids, thrips, red spider mites and the cost of insecticides is high. We source farming manure from Kajiado County which though relatively cheap compared to fertilizer, is also expensive. Changes in weather

areas.



patterns affect production of oranges especially during the cold season. The dry season is also a major challenge since I have use alternative sources of water such as water bowser which is grossly expensive. The fact that I am not always available means that I have hire technical assistance which is costly as well.

What is your advice to officers taking loans?

Most officers take loans even when not necessary which should not be the case. Take a loan with a good plan in place on the intended use. Seek enough

information about viability of the project you want to undertake and avoid being influenced to venture into something just because someone else is doing it. It may not work for you. Do not be over ambitious but start simple and improve slowly by understanding that everything Most officers takes time. want to achieve financial breakthrough in a short time which is not possible. Huge loans do not necessarily guarantee huge returns and it is therefore advisable to take small loans, start a small project and let it grow over time. To succeed, be consistent in what you do and put all your mind and energy into it. Surround vourself with like-minded people and avoid bad company, especially colleagues. Lastly, have a supportive system, particularly family. Be disciplined, it rewards.



## **Welfare At Its Best**

### Moral Contentment Assured as GSU Chepchoina Base Camp Mess is Opened

#### By Chief Inspector Francis Kafue

SU officers at Chepchoina Base Camp delighted at the opening of the newly constructed Camp Mess. The magnificent welfare entity that is the first of such kind in field companies officially was opened by the Commandant-GSU, Mr Eliud Lagat on May 30, 2024 an auspicious ceremony accompanied by the General Staff Officer Mr George Nderitu and other Staff Officers of Unit. The Commandant

expressed his satisfaction at the construction work done and the completion of the Mess, which was constructed using GSU Welfare Funds. The facility encompasses the amenities of a standard mess including a messing room, board room and recreation section for games and social interaction. The facility also holds the canteen for the camp, an important facet in the field of welfare. He reiterated that the mess would go a long way in making the Camp a place of choice from the North Rift command, including holding security peace meetings and

community engagements.

During his lecture with the officers of GSU 'E' Company, Commandant conveved the greetings of the Inspector General, Eng Japhet Koome, and the Deputy Inspector General Kenva Police Service Mr Douglas Kanja. He passed the IG's regards and appreciation for commitment in their service to the country. While expressing the significance of improving the large field of welfare for members of the Unit, Mr Lagat committed to replicate similar projects in





one camps as sure way of boosting morale of his officers. He reiterated his inclination to improve the welfare infrastructure to afford comfort and moral contentment of his officers.

field

The Commandant has set a trajectory of onboarding every file and rank as he steers the Unit to the next level of operational excellence. "My priority is on what will make the Unit prosper. My desire is to walk hand in hand with the officers in ensuring the Unit achieves its mandate", he stated. He emphasized the need for personal discipline as this is the driving force for officers in the disciplined services. He implored upon the officers to work together with other security agencies in a multiagency would approach as this increase their effectiveness in performance of their duties. Mr Lagat while underscoring the of their families. He cautioned his officers against having a getrich quick mentality that leads into the snare of unnecessary the good work done in managing the farm and making it a critical element in supporting the welfare of the Unit. GSU Chepchoina

"My priority is on what will make the Unit prosper. My desire is to walk hand in hand with the officers in ensuring the Unit achieves its mandate"

debts and financial turmoil. He reminded the officers to embrace the chain of command and avoid misuse of social media.

The Commandant was received at the camp by the Deputy Officer Commanding GSU 'E' Company CI Antony Limo where he inspected a well turned out quarter guard, and thereafter planted the commemoration tree. Mr Lagat was taken on a tour of the new camp, the old camp, GSU Chepchoina Chapel and the Camp was established in the 1972 due to insecurity issues brought about by banditry and the need to provide security to the expansive Agricultural **Development Corporation (ADC)** farm that covered part of Trans-Nzoia and West Pokot Counties near the Kenya-Uganda Border. The camp has been occupied by several GSU Companies since then, whose diligence has seen the area become calm from banditry activities.











Commandant GSU Mr Eliud Lagat during his visit of 'J' Company at Kilgoris GSU Base Camp. Photo/ EZEKIEL MUTHOKA











# Death Shield

Armoured Vehicle Shields Patrol from Jaws of Death

#### By Constable Victor Ongeri

The effectiveness of armoured vehicles for soldiers cannot be underestimwated. Armored vehicles have revolutionized battle approach enabling troops to deploy in the hard-to-reach areas with minimal danger. The vehicles have saved personnel from ambushes and also helping to push the enemy deep from their comfort.

However, the story of these lifesaving vehicles can only be told best by officers with first-hand experience in the battlefield. The following is a narration of battle experience by Constable Abdulbasit Abdalla and how the patrol vehicle-MRAP, saved their lives from the terrorists' IED blast reinforced by an ambush attack. he events of June 10, 2023 remain fresh in my memory. Everything is crystal clear that I can recall the slow swing of twigs and tree branches from the soft wind, the chirping of the birds and the roaring of the vehicle's engine. I vividly remember the sweating from the scorching sun, the view of the dense canopy of Boni forest



as I stuck steadily on my gun until the time my world stopped for a moment. We had just landed, two days earlier, at Milimani Forward Operating Base after our annual change-over exercise from Chardende in Tana River County. The terrain and weather patterns of Chardende were in some aspects not different from what we were to meet.

We knew we were just 'tilting fire' to a different angle. We left Chardende early in the morning cruising along Minjila-Lamu road in a convoy, uniformly speeding as we meandered along the bends of the road. Our spirits were very high as we alertly engaged in nosense stories as we enjoyed the ride on the smooth tarmac road.

We enjoyed literally; chatting and laughing to stori za jaba as there was no time to frown and worry. After all, this life is too short. We joined Hindi-Kiunga-Baragoni road and our alertness levels went high. We knew the terrain was not friendly but it was the only way. I noticed silence creeping in and everyone had his sight on the flanks as we cleared through the dense cover of Boni forest to our camp.

The cracking jokes of 'Rambo', my fellow gunner as we normally call him, would fall flat on everyone's ears. We arrived at our operating base, Milimani camp, much to our relief and established defensive positions. I scanned around our base, the alluring green vegetation, the deafening silence, the calm weather, the beautiful blue sky and the breath-taking view of sun set were in great contrast with the reality. The vegetation

was a good cover for the enemy, the silence would probably be washed away by gun fire, and the blue sky and the sun set were not pleasurable. I was only assured of time, the rising and setting of the sun. Still, I was not assured if I saw the former I would see the latter. I laughed at my imaginations and comforted myself, Mungu mbele.

Sunday, June 10, 2023, the second day at our operating base. We had already settled and our commander had issued his camp standing orders. The extract of the orders was security, patrols, and more patrols. After all, it is



what we do, maintenance of law and order, safety and security, collection of intelligence all through patrols. On the material day I was part of the team to conduct clearance patrol to familiarize ourselves with our new area of operation. I geared up and prepared my arsenal. I was the gunner. Our patrol commander issued his patrol orders and we embarked on a mounted-dismounted patrol aboard our Mine Resistant Ambush Protected (MRAP) patrol vehicle. I stuck to my gun at the top providing aerial cover as we slowly purred through the sandy terrain. The view of the expansive Boni forest from my position was eye-catching with thick green vegetation cover and big indigenous trees.

I was at loss how such an area with a robust ecosystem rich in natural vegetation and wild life was a toll risk to peaceful human habitation. Such an irony! My eyes were readily focused on the path as we navigated through. My team members were alertly conversing save for the patrol commander and the driver whose sight remained glued on the road alert for signs of ground disturbance. We would disembark and do foot clearance on suspicious areas.

We met local herders along the way whom we briefly interacted with, then proceeded on our mission. We halted at Diram area, some 12 kilometres from our operating base, which was the rendezvous of our patrol. The temperatures were rising due to the scorching sun and the patrol commander called us off from our recon positions

to withdraw back to our camp. About halfway back to our camp, I started reminiscing about our interaction with the herders. Hardly had my line of thought completed than my world turned upside down. Our vehicle was blown off by a command instigated Improvised Explosive Device planted by suspected Alshabaab operatives. The MRAP landed on the crater created

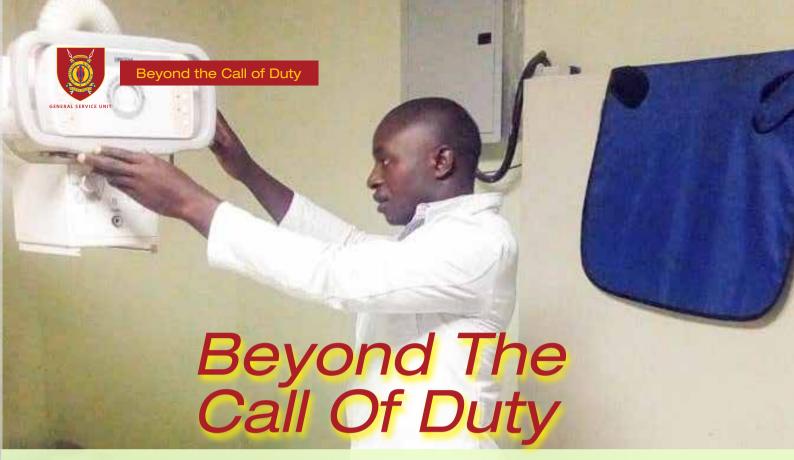
my day had come. The twigs, branches and leaves of the trees were swinging as if nothing had happened. I crawled to our stalled vehicle and took cover under. My colleagues, gallantry and still with injuries, recollected themselves after the shocking blast, dismounted from the MRAP and engaged the attackers in a fierce gun battle repulsing them into the thick cover of

evacuation for the injured. Ground reinforcement from GSU and air evacuation by the Kenya Defence Forces arrived within no time much to our relief. As I lay on the hospital bed at Manda Air Base, I would reflect on the magnitude of the blast and wonder what would have been the consequence had we been aboard a soft-skinned vehicle. The MRAP saved our lives".

As I lay on the hospital bed at Manda Air Base, I would reflect on the magnitude of the blast and wonder what would have been the consequence had we been aboard a soft-skinned vehicle. The MRAP saved our lives".

by the blast and stalled, front wheels dis-jointed. I was thrown out of the turret (gunner's position) and landed about 20 metres away with a great thud. The impact was so painful that I lost consciousness for a moment. I could faintly hear the sound of gun fight as my team fought off the determined attackers who had reinforced the IED attack with a massive gun fire. The deafening sound of gunfire in the air was so much that I thought

the forest. We combed the area and held onto our positions as the patrol commander called for reinforcement and medical The coming of APCs and MRAPs in the operations of the National Police Service is an inordinate milestone that has greatly supported the efforts of officers who bravely put their life on the line for the safety and security of our country. Had constable Abdalla and his team not been provided with the armoured vehicle, they would have been another sad statistic of officers killed in the line of duty. The exertion of the government to modernize and equip the National Police Service is a great move that will not only guarantee the safety of security officers but also impact on the general safety of the citizenry.



Police Volunteer who Helped Deliver a Baby at Ijara Hospital

#### By Constable Sammy Kipsagat

hen he set his feet at Ijara Operation camp, Constable Amunga Moses did not envision doing anything different from his obvious duty, security. Security patrols intelligence collection was his duty, or so he thought it would be. In an area where he was expecting to be clad in operational gear, he found himself in a white dust coat, powdered gloves and a mask.

Such was the drastic turn of duty for as Amunga found himself within the corridors of Ijara Sub-County hospital servicing hospital equipment and attending to patients. It was not a new placement as he had previously been attached to Mediheal Hospital, Eastleigh for three months doing repair and maintenance of medical equipment. He however had not anticipated keeping his gun aside in such an operationally active area.

At the onset of Covid-19 in 2020, Ijara Sub-County hospital was already in a state of neglect and disrepair as it had been vandalized by terror operatives. Medical infrastructure had been destroyed and staff had deserted leaving the hospital as another playing ground for monkeys and a safe abode for wild birds. The facility had closed down totally

to the detriment of the local population, denying them access to the much needed healthcare.

The community through the leadership of the local Nyumba Kumi initiative inquired from the officer commanding GSU Ijara Operation camp if he had any officer with a background in medical training. He only had a medical engineer, Constable Moses Amunga. In their agonizing state of desperation, Amunga was more than qualified. They only wanted a person who would open the doors of the facility; his field of specialty was secondary. Amunga's routine changed unexpectedly. He had envisioned the skills he acquired from Kenya Institute of Applied Sciences in Eldoret as a medical engineer would come into use in such circumstances. "I have always wanted to put my expertise into practice but I never thought the opportunity would present in such a way. I was happy," he remarks. They opened and cleaned the

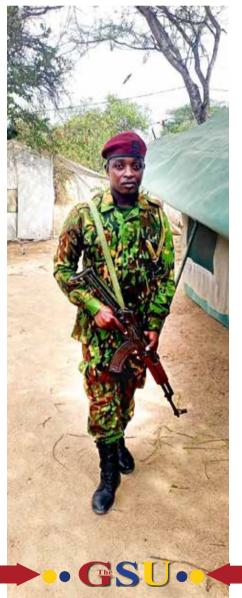
streaming in thinking the facility was fully operational. The area Member of Parliament Hon Sofia Abdi Noor intervened and had a nurse and clinical officer deployed to the hospital and also facilitated stocking of more drugs. With the deployment of the two practitioners, he was able to focus on servicing

I received the woman and put her in the labor room and prepared her for delivery. I called for the midwife from the village and together we helped her deliver safely

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hospital and started working on the equipment. There was no nurse or medical practitioner in the facility apart from one lab technician. To the locals, the help that they needed had come. Hardly had he settled down in the facility than the first medical case for him to address presented itself on the second day. "I had just reported in the morning when a woman in labor pain was brought to the hospital.

confused was since expertise was in servicing medical equipment and not patients," he recalls. Thev thought he was a doctor. He had no option other than to step in. "I had to use the little knowledge and experience I had in handling simple medical emergencies. I received the woman and put her in the labor room and prepared her for delivery. I called for the midwife from the village and together we helped her deliver safely," notes Amunga. The news of the woman's delivery spread like a wild fire and people started



and maintenance of hospital equipment. It was at the same time when Amunga started his new assignment that Covid-19 set in. His services became more demanding as the hospital started receiving more patients. So committed was Amunga to his new duty that he could walk for three kilometres to the hospital when the camp's vehicle was engaged on operational duties. "I was so empathetic about community's need healthcare.

The facility was grossly understaffed and I had to chip in basic nursing services alongside my main role of maintenance of the equipment," he remarks. The presence of Amunga at the hospital was a plus to the security as the community became cooperative addressing in security challenges. He notes, "They felt the importance of our camp being around as the hospital would be supplied with water from our camp. It improved the working relationship."

Amunga serviced the hospital equipment full time at the peak of Covid-19 pandemic offering crucial services at the most critical of times. He also helped in installing of new sunction and aesthetic medical machines donated to the hospital. His coming was probably heaven sent since the doors of the hospital remained opened even after they left. His selfless service to the people of Ijara at their time of need will forever be etched in their hearts thus underscoring the importance of community partnership with the security agencies in promoting public safety and security.



## Terrorism Threat Remains Our Priority

#### By Mr Jeremy Ndegwa

In the last four decades, Kenya's economy, especially, tourism sector has been adversely affected by a wave of attacks spearheaded by Al-Qaeda affiliates with active cells domiciled in Somalia. Therefore, to mitigate against the impact, Kenya is on the frontline of a regional and global war against terrorism.

errorism and violent extremism remains a global threat that undermines peace and security. In furtherance of their illiberal and parochial motives, terror groups continue to mount devastating attacks globally targeting critical infrastructures, crowded spaces and hard targets. This is aimed at intimidating states and citizens to cede their democratic values

and constitutional rights to a creeping caliphate. Globally, Kenya is reckoned as a hub for democracy and emerging economic power house in Africa and at the same time plays a critical role in peace and stability in East and Central Africa. However, Al-Qaeda and Daesh affiliates, remains a potent threat to Kenya's pursuit of its strategic and National interests. In the last four decades, Kenya's economy,

especially, tourism sector has been adversely affected by a wave of attacks spearheaded by Al-Qaeda affiliates with active cells domiciled in Somalia. Therefore, to mitigate against the impact, Kenya is on the frontline of a regional and global war against terrorism. This has been achieved by building capabilities of counter terrorism actors for example police, military as well as championing prevention of



violent extremism through upto-date strategies, legislation and empowering National Counter Terrorism Centre (NCTC) to amplify the whole of society approach, in prevention and countering violent extremism and building community resilience. Kenya, in partnership with other security actors has prioritized interventions geared towards degrading Al-Shabaab dominance in Somalia and the complexity and dangers involved. For instance, during the Westgate, Kapenguria, Garissa University, and Dusit D2 attacks among others, the nation looked upon the Unit to neutralize the threat and restore normalcy. During these critical moments the GSU delivered as expected. However, this has not been a walk in the park in that there are some instances where our gallant officers have paid the ultimate

counter terrorism operations in the aforementioned areas have significantly mitigated threat from terror group more so within major cities. Further, the Unit takes pride in having tactical teams that are trained both locally and internationally to enhance their capabilities in responding to complex missions.

The teams remain mission address ready to efficiently and effectively neutralizing the threat. To build and accelerate the momentum in the fight against terrorism, Unit the appeals to the local communities other stakeholders continue partnering and sharing information with law enforcement agencies. This will go a long way in denying terror operatives and sympathizers the sanctuary to recruit, radicalize, plan, deploy and execute attacks within their backyards. In doing this together, we realize a safe and secure nation free from terror activities: A dream for mankind.

Commitment, dedication to duty, timely response and service to the nation remains the mantra of the Unit in the quest for safe and secure nation.

General Service Unit (GSU) a specialized Unit within the Kenya Police Service is a key player in the fight against terrorism.

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denying them the financial muscle critical towards limiting their capability. It is worth noting that the terrorism threat we face is evolving, dynamic and thrives within the community's fabric.

Therefore, to defeat this faceless enemy and delegitimize their ill motives and actions requires a whole of national approach where relevant government agencies synergize efforts. partner with non-state actors and community members. The security actors in particular military and police play a critical role in detecting, deterring, disrupting terror activities as well as defending the sovereignty of the country. General Service Unit (GSU) a specialized Unit within the Kenya Police Service is a key player in the fight against terrorism. The unit is endowed with heroes and heroines who advance in war in spite of prize leading to loss of lives with some sustaining injuries in the process of neutralizing the threat. In spite of these setbacks, our officers remain resilient, steadfast and unbowed in their resolve in the fight against terrorism. Additionally, the Unit is strategically deployed along the Kenva-Somali enclave. border. Boni and critical infrastructure among other theaters. This has been a game-changer in that robust







# **Towards A Healthy Service**

#### Better Healthcare for Police officers at last

#### By Constable Ezekiel Muthoka

olice officers and their families have a reason to smile as the long awaited National Police Service hospital that was under construction, was handed over to the Service. The 150-bed level IV facility was inaugurated in a colourful ceremony graced by the Cabinet Secretary for Interior and National Administration Prof Kithure Kindiki who was accompanied by his Defence



The state of the art facility that is a first of its kind in the police service boasts of an intensive care unit (ICU), high dependency unit (HDU) and a maternity unit. Other specialized units include an operating theatre, a dental unit and other critical units found in a level IV facility.

The hospital situated at Mbagathi becomes the second such hospital operated by the National Police Service, after the Border Police Hospital at Kanyonyo, Kitui County which offers immediate medical care to police officers injured in the line of duty. The construction of the hospital that was done by the Kenya Defence Forces hallmarks the existing collaborative spirit among the

security services in a bid to promote morale and welfare of security officers. Speaking during the propitious ceremony, Hon Duale hailed the hospital as one of a kind since independence for the uniformed services and a symbol of collective effort between the KDF and the NPS in promoting working partnership. He noted that the facility stands as a testament of the unwavering commitment of the government to improve the welfare of

security officers. On his part Prof Kindiki lauded the collaboration between the Kenya Defence Forces and the National Police Service and the respective ministries highlighting it as an affirmation of the sole mandate of all security services to secure our country. He acclaimed the support given by the Ministry of Defence and the KDF for offering their experience and expertise in the construction of the hospital.

The facility is a remarkable milestone in the welfare of the uniformed services as it brings healthcare closer to the men and women in uniform and their families



The collaboration that has seen the construction and equipping of the hospital with state of the art medical equipment will continue to fully operationalize the hospital.

In the spirit of enhancing a working partnership, the Kenya Defence Forces will support the Police Service by providing personnel, medical experts as the NPS builds its full capacity. The magnificent NPSH Mbagathi joins the chain of hospitals in the health care program that provide medical services to the larger body of disciplined services in the country. The facility is a remarkable milestone in the welfare of the uniformed services as it brings healthcare closer to the men and women in uniform and their families. The hospital opens its doors at a crucial time when the Service is dealing with mental wellness among its members and access to quality, prompt and affordable healthcare cannot be underestimated. Accessibility to eminent health care by the security services is a great sign of the government's commitment to reward the security fraternity for their unwavering service to our country.

The opening of the hospital is a testament of the government's continued effort to invest in facilitating security personnel, more so those who serve in the frontline. The members of the Service have welcomed the opening of the hospital as a significant element in the field of welfare of police officers.











CS Defence Hon Aden Duale, CS Interior Prof Kithure Kindiki, DIG-KPS Mr Douglas Kanja, other senior officers of National Police Service and Kenya Defence Forces during the handover of NPSH Mbagathi on May 17, 2024. Photo/COURTESY







Commandant GSU Mr Eliud Lagat, Director Operations -KPS Mr Ranson Lolmodoni (in blue), Commandant RDU Mr Lawrence Owino and Commandant ASTU Mr Joseph Limo during a multi-agency consultative forum at GSU Headquarters, Ruaraka.



## **Regaining Boni Forest**

The Resolute War on Terrorism

By Inspector Paul Gitau

forest an outstandingly rich coastal ecosystem with an indigenous open canopy harbors solidities of plant species and extends from Lamuto Garissa County. Before 2011, the Coast region particularly Lamu County experienced relative calm. The socio-economic life was vibrant, business and trade activities were flourishing, tourism was thriving and community cohesion was astounding. Save for sporadic acts of criminality, the region experienced good security. In 2011, the government launched

'Operation Linda Nchi' the Kenya Defense Forces in Southern Somalia to drive away Al-Shabaab from the Kenvan border and to fully incapacitate them to have a terror-free Somalia. The sustained charge and offensive by the Kenya Defence Forces saw the terrorists fragment, and some elements retreated to Boni forest within Kenya, and set up make shift camps. The forest which is home to commonherbivores offered a source of wild food for the terrorists. The large vegetation cover which further extends to the Somali border became a sanctuary and offered a good hidey-hole for the terror operatives to use as a launching infiltrations pad for into Lamu West, Garissa and other neighboring areas. From 2010 to 2014, the government had put a sustained fight against violent extremism and radicalization within the Coastal region. The returnees and sympathizers of Al-Shabaab had set up radicalization cells across the Coast, notably Mombasa, Kwale, and Kilifi counties. The radicalization cells were instrumental in the recruitment of young men to join Al-Shabaab by exploiting their state of poverty, unemployment, and illiteracy. The determined efforts of security services to neutralize the masterminds of radicalization had borne fruits, achieving convictions and rescuing many youths from exploitation.

The landscape in the fight against terrorism changed when Al-Shabaab operatives carried out successive attacks in Mpeketoni. The town, which is on the mainland near Lamu Island, is the main business and trade center and extensively supports the economy of Lamu County. So resilient was the business that trading activities ran late into the night creating viable prospects for investors to roll out projects and investments. However, on the night of June 15, 2014, masked Al-Shabaab terrorists using hijacked vans staged a coordinated attack within the busy town. The attack targeted business establishments including banks, hotels, entertainment joints, and Mpeketoni Police Station as the locals were going about their

business. The cowardly attack sadly left at least 48 people dead and others acutely injured. Before the heavy cloud of grief could disappear, the gunmen staged another attack setting houses on fire in the villages of Majembeni and Maporomoko in Mpeketoni on June 17, 2014. Security officers reacted swiftly in a gun battle killing several assailants. The attacks left Mpeketoni town which was on the path of

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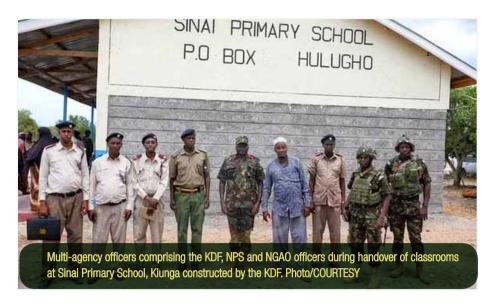
Following the two attacks at Mpeketoni, the government declared an allout war against the elements of Al-Shabaab by launching 'Operation Maliza Ugaidi'.

becoming a major investment hub in Lamu County in a desolate state with stalled growth and loss of investments. Following the two attacks at Mpeketoni, the government declared an allout war against the elements of Al-Shabaab by launching 'Operation Maliza Ugaidi'. The operation saw the deployment of security services within Boni forest complemented by robust intelligence to effectively counter the assailants.

As the sustained fight gained momentum and the security services developed good relationships with the local communities. the terrorists resorted to unconventional tactics. They started antagonizing communities local amongst themselves, forced radicalization attacks civilian and on settlements to intimidate and instill fear. They also resorted to cowardly attacks on transport targeting civilians supposedly discourage them from supporting security



services. Security operations in Lamu County metamorphosed into 'Operation Amani Boni' in 2020, adopting a robust multiagency approach comprising all facets of security agencies in the country. The complementary approach by the security agencies through sharing of operational information resources. and intelligence proved to be the joining piece in fight. The partnership synergy that also brought the community closer in anti-radicalization campaign by the National Counter Terrorism Center became instrumental in creating awareness on violent extremism especially amongst the vouth. The collaborative approach proved to be a working



Collaboration between the local community and security services in information sharing has drastically contributed to fewer cases of terrorism. There has been increased public understanding

The resilient workshops by the National Counter-Terrorism Centre have resulted in fewer cases of radicalization among the vouth. Community collaboration with security officers is laudable as many have joined the fight to complement security officers volunteering as police reserves. In a bid to enhance and encourage more partnerships, security services have rolled out community outreach programs set to address local problems. The

The presence of security services has afforded the government a worthy opportunity to launch and implement major infrastructure projects that have certainly transformed the livelihoods of inhabitants of Lamu County







Kenya Defence Forces personnel have been rehabilitating schools and health centers that have been neglected for a long time, much to the relief of locals who had been denied these crucial services.

The General Service Unit has also been offering mobile medical services, distributing clean drinking water and dry foodstuff, and transport facilitation of medical practitioners to the hard-to-reach population within the Boni enclave. They have also enhanced community relationships through sporting

activities to engage the youth and rescue them from the threat of violent extremism and radicalization as well as drug and substance abuse. Challenges notwithstanding, the terrorism security campaign within Boni has borne fruits. The presence of security services has afforded the government a worthy opportunity to launch and implement major infrastructure projects that have certainly transformed the livelihoods of inhabitants of Lamu County. The Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport (LAPSSET) Corridor infrastructure program,

program bringing together Kenya, Ethiopia, and South Sudan has been implemented with the construction of a deep sea port at Manda Bay. The port opens up the tourist resort county to international trade effectively enhancing the economy of the county. The construction of the first-ever tarmac road, Lamu-Witu-Minjila road, has opened up the county, easing transport and facilitating trade and business. The robust infrastructure projects springing up in Lamu are set to improve connectivity and make the region an unrivaled economic hub attracting investments.

The national security services are devotedly resolute in their undertaking to rescue the Kenyan coast from the grinding captivity of terrorism. We remain committed to our patriotic duty of keeping our communities safe, and a sustained fight against terrorism is our yow.



# The North-Rift Odyssey

## My Experience In Countering Banditry

By, Constable Eric Mwangi (papichulo)



y time in the General Service Unit over the few years of my service has been a fairly tell-a-tale experience, a riveting and enlightening journey. Upon taking my oath of service, I was posted in the expansive and volatile North Rift region at the apex of Kenya's geographical borders, Todonyang Base camp in Turkana County, bordering Ethiopia adjacent to river Omo and the aquatic-life rich Lake Turkana.

Turkana County has borne the brunt of insecurity over the vears as the neighbors within and outside borders practice the pastoralism as main economic mainstay. The source of insecurity has been cattle rustling involving pastoralists from Turkana in Kenva, the Toposa from South Sudan and the Merrile and Ndongiro from Ethiopia. It is the retrogressive practice of cattle theft involving these communities that makes the sound of gunfire an obvious phenomenon in the region.

Mvintroduction to active duty was both daunting and fascinating. Upon arriving at the border camp, I was warmly welcomed by seasoned colleagues, referred to as seniors. The camp offers a nostalgic view of the Lokitaung hills and the breathtaking orange silhouette of the sunset. But the above normal day temperatures, the sharp bites of the mosquitoes at night and the uneasy security environment contrast the reassuring sights.

However, the reassurance by the seniors, expressed with the phrase "strength iko mahali yake" (strength is sufficient) conveying that additional soldiers were deployed to aid in executing our duties effectively was enough to keep us pushing. After a week of orientation, an unexpected incident unfolded one evening as I manned the apex kip.

Gunshots echoed towards the camp, as Toposa raiders from Ethiopia exchanged gunfire with Turkana herders prompting an immediate response from

everyone in the camp. Swiftly donning full fighting gear, our commander gathered a team and swung into action. The Toposa had stolen cattle belonging to the Turkana community, leading to an intense two-hour exchange of gunfire.

The experience was blood rushing and felt surreal, akin to a dramatic movie. Amidst the harsh temperatures causing perspiration, morale-boosting words from senior officers like "GSU haijawahishindwa" (GSU has never been defeated) and the eloquent battle command by our commander provided courage. After a strenuous fivehour effort, we successfully recovered over 100 heads of cattle without any injuries on our side. The joy of returning the cattle to their owners marked the beginning of my dedicated



fight against banditry during my three years deployment in Turkana. Due to several attacks, tension would occasionally grip some of our men. I remember a particular incident that required quick response, prompting our officer commanding platoon to hurriedly call the stand-by patrol team. He issued his orders briefly and spelled the mission and tasks of the patrol concisely. I remember the OC assertively saying, "tulikuja hapa kazi na tunaenda kazi." One officer humorously requested to change into his clean uniform, to which the OC jokingly responded. "Kwani tunaendea parade?" Laughter ensued, but we noticed the officer's tension, leading to him being relieved from the patrol. These jokes and laughter made our days memorable, boosting our morale.

Tales of how the GSU had conquered through the years filled us with pride, reinforcing our courage as we maintained law and order. The joy in the community's eyes was evident whenever we passed by, with them saying, "Ndio hio red beret," referring to us. Each time we attended a situation, the community's relief was palpable, sometimes resulting in rewards as a token of their satisfaction with our work. As we moved to Turkana West, our responsibility in extended to policing the refugees at Kakuma Refugee Camp, leading to conflicts with the Sudanese community who accused us of interfering in their activities. One notable incident at Kakuma Refugee Camp involved a young lady brought there against her will for marriage,

challenges we executed our We managed to recover almost operational duties with utmost 300 stolen cattle patriotism as is our call of duty. various Transferring to Baringo County handed them back to their for my third year, another highly owners under the help of banditry-prone area is where the area leadership and I had the roughest journey of the local chiefs. The multimy career. It was a wide area agency cooperation with of operation, and the habitant Anti-Stock Theft Unit, our communities are pastoralists capable operational partners

sparking an attack on us by locals security agencies in the area who believed we hindered their including Anti-Stock Theft Unit cultural practices. Amidst these and the general duties police. during operations and

Tales of how the GSU had conquered through the years filled us with pride, reinforcing our courage as we maintained law and order

who also engage in the barbaric was a working partnership as practice of cattle rustling. Our we carried out duties amidst tour of duty started at a small the challenges. Navigating the village in Tiaty Constituency area's poor road conditions led called Loiwat; a highly vegetative to vehicle breakdowns, adding area and inhabited by the Pokot to the challenges. Despite these community. We were literally hurdles, we effectively thwarted in our boots all the time as cattle bandit plans, driving them out rustling activities between the of their hideouts and ensuring pastoralist communities occured the safety of our troops passing very often. These cases required through the region. Baringo is an combined efforts with other arid area which receives average

rainfall which is one of the reasons for increased conflict as the pastoralist communities seek to expand their grazing territories.

As time passed, the area received rainfall at unusually high levels causing floods. A tragic incident occurred when our colleagues from ASTU had their camp swept away by the heavy rains, resulting in a significant loss of lives and equipment. Efforts to locate and recover the missing officers took two weeks. revealing a heartbreaking story. The floods made our Loiwat camp un-inhabitable, prompting





urgent plans to relocate to a safer location. Despite the challenges, including persistent cattle rustling and floods, we were well equipped and managed to succeed in our operations.

I then moved to Kapedo, another notorious area for banditry and I experienced a whole different level of operational challenges. Kapedo was the epitome of banditry as the activity would affect other activities such as learning, trade and business. Our efforts there focused on advocating peace between the Turkana and Pokot communities through public centered policing by working with the religious and community leadership. Despite the difficulties, our collective significantly reduced efforts banditry cases.

Moving to Nairobi County presented a different set of challenges during the election Maintaining peace and order became our priority, especially during protests and demonstrations. Dealing with hooliganism and riotous mob presented its own challenges from running battles during the day and sleepless nights.

The GSU training motto of "Train Hard, Fight Easy" resonated well as we faced tough situations. Salute to all my colleagues who endured the challenges with resilience, camaraderie, and a commitment to upholding the GSU badge high. Working in disciplined, paramilitary the unit of the Kenya Police Service is a rewarding and enjoyable experience, and I am thankful to God Almighty for it.

Despite the difficulties, our collective efforts significantly reduced banditry cases.



# Learners' Paradise

Jubilation as GSU Secondary School Welcomes its Inaugural Students



t was a moment of elation for learners when GSU Secondary School, nestled within GSU Headquarters opened its doors to welcome its inaugural group of students. The secondary school which has been birthed by the primary school at the Unit headquarters is a significant milestone in the learning of the many children of officers in the Unit and the neighborhood community. The middle level learning infrastructure consisting of two new class rooms was officially opened by the Commandant-GSU Mr Eliud K. Lagat, on Friday May 10, 2024 accompanied by the Deputy Commandant Mr Omar M. Bashane, the Head teacher Ms Catherine Wanja Ndwiga together with other senior staff officers,

teachers of the school and the board members, where he emphasized the school's pivotal role in meeting the educational needs of GSU families and the wider community.

Established to cater primarily to families of General Service Unit (GSU) officers and neighbouring communities such as Ruaraka, Baba Ndogo, Kariobangi, and Roysambu, the school represents a significant breakthrough in providing accessible and quality secondary education. The school opened its doors to learners in January 2024 and has been domiciled within the classes of the primary school is a relief as it brought learning at the door step. The school has so far enrolled over

200 students in form one and there is ongoing construction work to realize the institution's goal ensuring that students benefit from enhanced learning environment.

The initiative to establish GSU Secondary School is a brainchild of the Commandant, a noble idea that has attracted support by the Mathare MP Hon. Otieno Kajwang' and his Rovsambu counterpart Hon. Augustine Kamande as the school will also serve the larger neighborhood the constituents of they represent. They have committed supporting its ongoing

development and ensuring that it becomes a cornerstone of educational excellence in the region. Additionally, community leaders and wellwishers have played pivotal roles in the planning and development phases, ensuring that the school's vision of providing accessible education becomes a reality. Building on the success of GSU Primary School which has consistently excelled academically and topped its peers in the preceding vears in the KCPE examinations at the constituency level, GSU Secondary aims to uphold and surpass these standards. Since its inception in 1995, GSU Primary school has not only served as a beacon of academic brilliance but has also attracted students

from various regions across the country, underscoring its reputation as a national model of basic education excellence.



With the establishment of GSU Secondary, students now have the opportunity for a seamless educational transition from primary to secondary school within their community. This eliminates the need for families to undertake long commutes in search of quality education, thereby enhancing convenience and accessibility. Looking ahead, discussions among the school board, ministry officials, and local stakeholders have focused on further developing the institution's infrastructure and academic programs to make an academic hub it is poised to be. These conversations also highlight the broader impact of GSU Secondary School on the surrounding area and identify strategies to address any challenges that may arise.











Commandant GSU Mr Eliud Lagat during the ground breaking ceremony for construction of GSU Secondary School at GSU Headquarters, Ruaraka on 08/07/2024. Photo/Elvis Minjire





# Record Management for Police Officers

Effective record management is crucial for informed decision making within organizations

By Ms Caroline Wangui

ffective record management is crucial for informed decision making within organizations, particularly in the human resource capacity development department. The updating of officers' personal files holds significant importance as it provides employers with essential information, facilitating the formulation and implementation of employment policies. Maintaining accurate and up-to-date personal records, plays a vital role in preventing potential legal issues, for instance, in the unfortunate event of an officer's demise, the employer can easily contact the designated next

of kin as indicated in the staff member's file. This ensures smooth process for the late employee's beneficiaries to claim their entitled benefits. Additionally, regularly updating officers' personal files serves as a point of reference for the employer regarding promotions, career advancements, training and employee welfare considerations. Timely update of officers' personal records are paramount in avoiding delays in decision making processes, ensuring prompt payment of terminal dues, and facilitating training needs, assessments, among other benefits. It also helps employers in maintaining accurate record that are essential



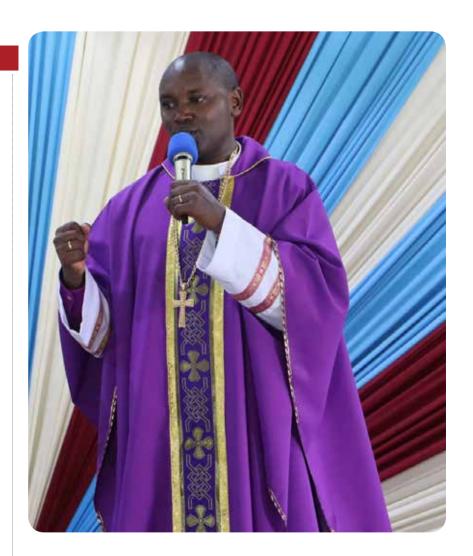


### You are a Seed of Greatness

You Cannot Sink

#### By Bishop Sgt Samson Lenana

Every person born under the heavens is a seed of greatness; you came here with a divine agenda and purpose. Whatever you are facing and feel like giving up is the evil plan of the enemy so that your greatness can be covered. But by this message, I break every demonic covering over your life and destiny, in Jesus name. "And he will destroy in this mountain the face of the covering cast over all people, and the veil that is spread over all nations". Isaiah 25:7



he enemy uses system to hinder great destinies, and carriers of great destinies encounter many limitations and hindrances. The story of Moses offers hope that God can help us overcome hurdles and live in prosperity.

Moses, one of the greatest prophets, was born during a very difficult time in history when Israelites were in captivity in Egypt. When the Pharaoh saw that the Israelites were increasing in population, he ordered for the killing of all male firstborns by throwing them in the Nile but God spared Moses' life because He had prepared his destiny to use him as His servant to lead Israelites out of Egypt. "Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall cast into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live" Exodus 1:22.

When Moses was born, his mother saw that he was a fine child. She could not imagine losing such a handsome child and she hid him for three months. It was only a matter of time before she could be found.



Trusting in God is rewarding. The woman, who could no longer hide her son, feared that the boy would be killed. She acted by faith rather than falling into a state hopelessness of depression. and She did her best: made a small boat for the son, and put him in and let it by River Nile. Her instincts were so convincing that the boy would survive in the water, and surely he did!



"When she could not hide him any longer, she took for him a basket made of papyrus and coated it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank" Exodus 2:3.

When she could not hide him any longer, she took for him a basket made of papyrus and coated it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank" Exodus 2:3.

"

Sometimes, steps of faith may not be well understood. Just believe in God. The daughter of the king, who had ordered that the boys be killed, fell in love with the boy and purposed to preserve him. "And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you wages, So the woman took the child and nursed him" Exodus 2:9

The sufficiency of God's grace will ensure that you will be preserved by the very people who plot your destruction. You only need to keep your

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faith strong in God. Because vou carry a seed of greatness vou will not die prematurely, drugs will not consume vou. stress will not kill vou. The grace of God that preserved Moses from death will preserve you from all forces and ill fashioned plans against you.God works in verv mysterious ways. Whatever seems less useful today, God can mold and preserve it for his use in the future.

Moses survived the annihilation of first born sons in Egypt, not because he was lucky, but because God wanted to raise a prophet and a great leader to lead Israelites from captivity.

"And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt" Exodus 3:9-10.

Today, we are faced by very difficult times; hard economic times, dive down in careers, environmental turmoil, diseases, debts, family wrangles, but the grace of God shall preserve us through the hardships and establish us in greatness. You are a seed of greatness and the heavens will build a protective wall around you in every direction. The plan of God to establish you, to make you great, to make you prosper; will not be shuttered by anyone because whatever God preserves, He sustains.

You are a seed of greatness; you will not sink, in Jesus name. God Bless You.



Simple Way of Budgeting and Planning Ahead

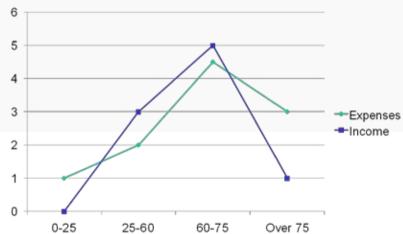
#### By Justus Mbogori

n a world where "you only live once" or "Yolo" is the common motto, not everyone is eating up what they earn like there is no tomorrow.

Some are seriously planning and living wise". The illustration below shows a perfect correlation between time and Finances.

#### Individual Income/ Expenditure Curve





NB: As you advance in age the level of income declines. The level of expenses increases, health deteriorates, and the income levels go low or plateau. There is a period where pension funds have delayed, and this is a lack period in many retirees. No one has the capability to sustain your current lifestyle beyond retirement. There is need to start planning early.

#### Financial Management Tips

- 1 Pay yourself first
  - ▶ Payroll deduction for savings
  - ► Standing order in bank
  - ▶ Use the net balance for your health.
- 2 Develop and use spending plan budget
  - ▶ Payroll deduction for savings
  - Standing order in bank
  - ▶ Use the net balance for your health.
- 3 Avoid impulse purchases
  - Resist temptations do not buy things which you have not planned for
- 4 Shop sensibly
  - ► Compare shop prices before buying.
  - Use supermarkets price are lower than convenience stores.
  - Control debt cost.
  - Manage interest cost on loans.
  - Register retirement benefit schemes to reduce taxes-legal reduction of tax.
  - Tax reduced on mortgage loans.
  - ► Life insurance tax relief

- 5 Avoid get-rich quick schemes.
  - Avoid remaining poor or going to jail.
     Out of 100 ways of making money 99 backfire
- 6 Avoid insurance policies that are a waste of money.
  - ► Buy cover which add value.
- 7 Avoid insurance policies that are a waste of money.
  - Buy cover which add value.

Investments are of various types once you have consistently developed savings. The savings are then invested in various ways to generate revenue, the revenue generated is re-invested to generate more revenue. The revenues can be termed as either passive or active income.

#### Active vs Passive income

#### Active income

Role of Active income: To fund needs // To fund savings and investments

- □ Primary income
- Salary
- Commission

- Business
- Overtimes

#### Passive Income

Investment of income

- Stocks
- Investment from bank account and time deposit
- Treasury Bills
- Rent Earned from properties.







SPORTS

GSU Commandant Awakens Sleeping Talents as he Revives Sports in the Unit





portspersons in the General Service Unit have every reason to be delighted after the Commandant- GSU Mr Eliud Lagat re-introduced sporting activities as part of the unit mantra for teamwork and efficiency in the discharge of duties. Sporting competitions in the Unit have been at a pause since 2009 save for volleyball and tug of war.

Sporting activities play a crucial role in our lives including maintaining physical strength, improving social interactions, skill development, strengthening resilience, community interactions, and mental health. The Commandant is keeping the bite at the apple in reviving sporting activities while improving the work environment of his paramilitary officers.

The sports comprise a handful of sporting activities, which range from tug of war, handball, athletics, volleyball, football, judo and Tae-Kwo-Ndo. Last year alone, the Sports Section rolled out football

The Recce commandos displayed their precision in sports as they are in special operations after they thrashed Hqs Sub-Unit in the finals to clinch the inaugural 2023 Commandant's Cup

"

competitions for Nairobi-based field companies and the Big Four companies held at NPC Embakasi B Campus. The games which were broadcasted live by Kenya Broadcasting Corporation (KBC Channel One) saw a culmination of display of talents.

The intercompany Nairobi-based football tournament saw eight (8) teams pooled in two groups; A and B. Pool A comprised of Hqs Sub-Unit, Presidential Guard Sub-Unit, 'A' Company, and 'Q' Company while pool B saw Recce Company, NPC Embakasi 'B' Campus, 'V' company and 'N' company face each other in an entertaining encounter. The Recce commandos displayed their precision in sports as they are in special operations after they thrashed Hqs Sub-Unit in the finals to clinch the inaugural 2023 Commandant's Cup. The instructors of NPC 'B' Campus finished at third place marking the last team in the awards category.

The GSU commandant's football intercompany competition is at the epicenter which precedes the revival of the Red Berets team. The Red Berets was a formidable team in the then Kenya Football Federation league up to the year 2010 when its existence diminished as a result of poor performance. There is no doubt that the General Service Unit holds a pool of natural born talents among its officers which offers much hope in the formation of a competitive team.



be selected to form the Red Berets football team.

Succeeding in football demands a holistic approach. This ranges from good scouting, a clear method of play

players during the

competition would

for instance, 4-4-2, 4-3-3 or you can prefer 'The special one' Jose Mourinho's old style of 4-2-3-1 which is an attacking formation to 'park the bus', and finally enough strength for players

All field companies participated in the 2023 cross country competitions held at GSU Headquarters. Unlike football, athletics calls for more discipline and energy to focus. Some of the prominent athletes who have produced stellar performances and serve in disciplined services include Catherine Ndereba, David Rudisha, Ferdinand

Omanyala, Julius Yego, Hellen Moraa, and Hellen Obiri among others.

Volleyball tournament competitions were held in the first quarter of 2024 comprising field companies and the big four companies. The competition mimicked the previous competitions with a culmination of talent experienced at every level. The Unit Headquarters commanded their dominance with an astounding

display that saw all other teams plead at the mercy of God. The tall physically imposing and experienced Headquarters team looked calm and confident as they trashed the second-place 'F' Company in the finals by three sets to nil leaving fans at NPC B Campus perplexed.

This was not expected especially from the F Cov team which looked impressive in the entire competition but the field company could not hold a single set against the indomitable Headquarters team which has mastered the art of the sport. The Presidential guards secured a lucky third position after a narrow win of three sets to two against the determined 'A' Company who finished in the fourth position during the competition. With the Commandant's vision to create a better sports niche, the Unit is planning more field competitions to help in scouting and enhance teamwork. Improving sporting activities involves many other aspects and combinations of elements that are being considered to ensure that these become a success at the paramilitary Unit and it includes building strategic management in the unit sports department, guaranteed professionalism that is, effective coaching with proper improvement of skills, tactical awareness and proper scouting is essential.





during the Commandant's Football Championship.
Photo/ VINCENT KIPKEMOI







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