Captain (SA Navy) Mark Stephen Blaine

Captain Mark Blaine joined the South African Navy in April 1983, specialising in mine warfare. After postings as departmental officer onboard the mine warfare ships he attained command of the mine warfare vessel SAS UMZIMKULU from 1996 to 1999 and the hydrographic survey vessel SAS PROTEA from 2004 to 2006. He was the Defence Advisor at the South African High Commission in Nairobi Kenya from April 2007 to September 2011 where he paid specific attention to the piracy problems on the coast of Somalia and the Horn of Africa. He is currently a lecturer for nautical science at the Faculty of Military Science of the University of Stellenbosch, serves as a part-time researcher and fellow in Sigla and has completed his Master's Degree in Maritime Security through the University of Coventry in 2016.