

FORCESELECT VISITS PADERBORN BASE TO MEET DECOMMISSIONED BRITISH TROOPS

Paderborn, Germany, May 11 2011 – ForceSelect, the UK’s leading ex-military recruitment consultancy, visited the Barker Barracks in Paderborn, Germany, today, to meet British troops from the Princess of Wales's Royal Regiment, some of whom are facing the prospect of life in civvy street.

Following recent news of substantial cuts to the defence budget by the UK government, ForceSelect has been stepping up its plans to meet and advise troops who might be affected by compulsory redundancies in the weeks and months to come.

The ForceSelect team, including founder Hugh Andrée along with recruitment consultants – all of whom are military service leavers themselves – met with troops who are considering or have already planned to leave the armed forces to give them advice about the challenges that await them in civilian life.

A number of workshops also took place which will help troops identifying the most suitable industry sectors and roles to utilise their skills, write a winning CV, build a relationship with a consultant and interview preparation, including competency based interview techniques.

ForceSelect Founder Hugh Andrée said: “The seminar served to underline the wealth of talent within the Armed Forces which can be utilised by civilian employers. Unfortunately it also demonstrated that these individuals still need more guidance, advice and support to prepare them for leaving the Forces – not enough is being done to assist their transition. What is key here is continuity of care and ensuring that there is a safety net for these men and women when they exit the Forces. ForceSelect is committed to assisting service leavers from all ranks and plans to hold many more of these events based on today's success.”

Captain Barry French, RCMO, 2PWRR, said: “As the unit's career's Officer, and responsible for the progression of these men and women whilst they serve, it's great to see that there is a company which is committed to aiding their transition out of the Forces and dedicated to ensuring that they don't just take the first job available, but start to prepare for a successful second career when they leave.”

Staff Sgt Keith Graham 35Eng assistant RCMO, who also attended the event, said: “ForceSelect is an honest up front company that actually gives a package including mentoring, job search and advice - a must for any soldier about to leave the forces.”

ForceSelect recently became the first organisation of its kind to undertake a fact-finding mission to Afghanistan to meet troops in order to gain a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities, spending four days in Kabul with troops from 2 Para Regiment to promote the career guidance offered to service leavers by ForceSelect.

ForceSelect was set up by Hugh Andrée in response to the lack of advice and support he received when he left the army in 1997 and has placed over 170 service leavers in new careers since the company was launched in March 2010.

Ends

NOTES TO EDITORS

ForceSelect was set up in 2009 by former Army officer Hugh Andrée to provide military service leavers – currently estimated to be around 20,000 each year – with the best and most appropriate career opportunities within UK businesses.

ForceSelect believes that Armed Forces leavers are efficient, reliable, disciplined, and self-motivated candidates who can contribute positively to British society and the workforce.

All ForceSelect staff have served in the military including Managing Director and former artillery officer Lucy Wood; Director, best-selling author and SAS hero Andy McNab DCM MM; and Non-Executive Director and former Chief of General Staff General Sir Michael Jackson GCB CBE DSO DL.

ForceSelect has recently agreed partnership deals with UPS and Sainsbury's. It is keen to sign up with a wide range of large and small businesses across the UK across all business sectors.

ForceSelect is implementing a mentoring and support programme to provide advice and guidance to individuals having left the Armed Forces, enabling a seamless transition from service life into civilian employment.

ForceSelect is developing a national network of volunteers who are willing to give up some of their time to help ex-service people living in their area. This mentoring will be offered to every service leaver placed in a new job and will cover areas such as accommodation, financial matters, medical matters and the different culture of civilian life.

As part of a wider corporate responsibility, the ForceSelect Foundation has been established in order to contribute towards service charities each year.

ForceSelect will contribute a proportion of its profits to the Foundation as well as organising a range of fundraising activities.

For more information, please visit www.forceselect.com



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