

FORCESELECT PROVIDES XMAS CHEER FOR 2 PARA DURING FACTFINDING MISSION IN AFGHANISTAN

London, December 21 2010 – ForceSelect, the UK’s leading ex-military recruitment consultancy, has provided some Christmas cheer for members of 2 Para during a fact-finding mission in Afghanistan.

The government recently announced substantial cuts to the armed forces and the Ministry of Defence revealed earlier this year that it is planning to enforce redundancies through its Manning Control Points scheme, with many regular service personnel expected to lose their jobs.

ForceSelect became the first organisation of its kind to undertake this sort of visit, with founder Hugh Andrée, Director Andy McNab and Operations Director Polly Irish spending four days in Kabul to observe troops from 2 Para Regiment to promote the career guidance it offers to service leavers.

ForceSelect Director Andy McNab added: “It was a great opportunity for ForceSelect to see first-hand what troops on the ground are going through and to reassure them that a life beyond the services need not be daunting. ForceSelect is committed to providing second careers for military service leavers and highlighting the wide array of transferable skills and talents that can be utilised by British business.”

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 the visit to Afghanistan gave the team a chance to explain how service leavers can promote their core values and their military skills in a civilian workplace.

ForceSelect Founder Hugh Andrée said: “As the leading ex-military recruitment consultancy, ForceSelect is going the extra mile to understand what our troops are going through in Afghanistan. We work with some of the UK’s leading companies and it is vital that we let today’s soldiers know how transferable their experience can be when they become tomorrow’s civilians. To our knowledge this is the first time a service leaver recruitment consultancy has gone to such lengths to understand the needs and concerns of our serving military.”

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 22,000 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 Britain's society and 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 British Gas, 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.

ForceSelect has also agreed to work with a top London independent school to identify service leavers whose children would benefit from free school places. Once this scheme is established in 2011, ForceSelect plans to roll it out nationwide through the Independent Schools Association.

As part of a wider corporate responsibility, the ForceSelect Foundation has also been established 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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