



## symbols of **INDEPENDENCE**

African nations proudly celebrate their independence at various times throughout the year with fanfare. This year will mark the 70th anniversary of Libya's independence. Sudan, Tunisia and Morocco will observe 65 years of self-governance. This year will be the 60th anniversary of Sierra Leone's independence. Eritrea will celebrate its 30th year of independence, and Ethiopia will mark the 30th anniversary of the end of the Derg dictatorship. The world's youngest country, South Sudan, will mark 10 years of independence. As nations commemorate these special days, we at U.S. Africa Command stand by our African partners, who remember a proud history and look ahead to a bright future.

 **January 1**  
Republic of the Sudan  
Independence Day (1956)

 **February 18**  
Republic of The Gambia  
Independence Day (1965)

 **March 6**  
Republic of Ghana  
Independence Day (1957)

 **March 12**  
Republic of Mauritius  
Independence Day (1968)

 **March 20**  
Republic of Tunisia  
Independence Day (1956)

 **March 21**  
Republic of Namibia  
Independence Day (1990)

 **April 4**  
Republic of Senegal  
Independence Day (1960)

 **April 18**  
Republic of Zimbabwe  
Independence Day (1980)

 **April 26**  
United Republic of Tanzania  
Union Day (1964)

 **April 27**  
Togolese Republic  
Independence Day (1960)

 **April 27**  
Republic of Sierra Leone  
Independence Day (1961)

 **April 27**  
Republic of South Africa  
Freedom Day (1994)

 **May 20**  
Republic of Cameroon  
National Day (1972)

 **May 24**  
State of Eritrea  
Independence Day (1991)

 **May 28**  
Federal Democratic  
Republic of Ethiopia  
Downfall of the Derg (1991)

 **June 25**  
Republic of Mozambique  
Independence Day (1975)

 **June 26**  
Republic of Madagascar  
Independence Day (1960)

 **June 27**  
Republic of Djibouti  
Independence Day (1977)

 **June 29**  
Republic of Seychelles  
Independence Day (1976)

 **June 30**  
Democratic Republic of the Congo  
Independence Day (1960)

 **July 1**  
Federal Republic of Somalia  
Republic Day (1960)

 **July 1**  
Republic of Burundi  
Independence Day (1962)

 **July 1**  
Republic of Rwanda  
Independence Day (1962)

 **July 5**  
People's Democratic  
Republic of Algeria  
Independence Day (1962)

 **July 5**  
Republic of Cabo Verde  
Independence Day (1975)

 **July 6**  
Republic of Malawi  
Independence Day (1964)

 **July 6**  
Union of the Comoros  
Independence Day (1975)

 **July 9**  
Republic of South Sudan  
Independence Day (2011)

 **July 12**  
Democratic Republic  
of São Tomé and Príncipe  
Independence Day (1975)

 **July 23**  
Arab Republic of Egypt  
Revolution Day (1952)

 **July 26**  
Republic of Liberia  
Independence Day (1847)

 **August 1**  
Republic of Benin  
Independence Day (1960)

 **August 3**  
Republic of Niger  
Independence Day (1960)

 **August 5**  
Burkina Faso  
Independence Day (1960)

 **August 7**  
Republic of  
Côte d'Ivoire  
Independence Day (1960)

 **August 11**  
Republic of Chad  
Independence Day (1960)

 **August 15**  
Republic of the Congo  
Independence Day (1960)

 **August 17**  
Gabonese Republic  
Independence Day (1960)

 **September 6**  
Kingdom of Eswatini  
Somhlolo Day (1968)

 **September 22**  
Republic of Mali  
Independence Day (1960)

 **September 24**  
Republic of Guinea-Bissau  
Independence Day (1973)

 **September 30**  
Republic of Botswana  
Botswana Day (1966)

 **October 1**  
Federal Republic of Nigeria  
Independence Day (1960)

 **October 2**  
Republic of Guinea  
Independence Day (1958)

 **October 4**  
Kingdom of Lesotho  
Independence Day (1966)

 **October 9**  
Republic of Uganda  
Independence Day (1962)

 **October 12**  
Republic of  
Equatorial Guinea  
Independence Day (1968)

 **October 24**  
Republic of Zambia  
Independence Day (1964)

 **November 11**  
Republic of Angola  
Independence Day (1975)

 **November 18**  
Kingdom of Morocco  
Feast of Independence (1956)

 **November 28**  
Islamic Republic  
of Mauritania  
Independence Day (1960)

 **December 1**  
Central African Republic  
Republic Day (1958)

 **December 12**  
Republic of Kenya  
Jamhuri Day (1963)

 **December 24**  
Libya  
Independence Day (1951)



Members of a Malagasy honor guard smile as an officer adjusts a Soldier's collar during a ceremony at Ivato International Airport in Antananarivo, Madagascar.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

DECEMBER 2020						
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JANUARY 2021						
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FEBRUARY 2021						
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					 Republic of the Sudan Independence Day (1956)	
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JANUARY  
2021



An A-29B Super Tucano turboprop light attack aircraft flies over Mauritanian Army Soldiers in Atar, Mauritania, during Flintlock 2020. Flintlock is an annual African-led military and law enforcement exercise.

PFC. CLARA SORIA-HERNANDEZ/U.S. ARMY

JANUARY 2021						
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FEBRUARY 2021						
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MARCH 2021						
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 Republic of The Gambia  
Independence Day  
(1965)

FEBRUARY  
2021



A Soldier in the Rwanda Defence Force pulls a hook-and-line assembly during a field training exercise in Gabiro, Rwanda.

U.S. ARMY RESERVE

FEBRUARY 2021						
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MARCH 2021						
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APRIL 2021						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6  Republic of Ghana Independence Day (1957)
7	8	9	10	11	12  Republic of Mauritius Independence Day (1968)	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20  Republic of Tunisia Independence Day (1956)
21  Republic of Namibia Independence Day (1990)	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

MARCH  
2021



Malawi Defence Force Soldiers march during a rehearsal event at Kamuzu Barracks in Lilongwe, Malawi, on July 6, 2020.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

MARCH 2021						
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APRIL 2021						
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MAY 2021						
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30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
 Republic of Senegal Independence Day (1960)	11	12	13	14	15	16
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
 Republic of Zimbabwe Independence Day (1980)	25	26	27	28	29	30
	 United Republic of Tanzania Union Day (1964)	 Togolese Republic Independence Day (1960)	 Republic of Sierra Leone Independence Day (1961)	 Republic of South Africa Freedom Day (1994)		

APRIL 2021



Recruits in the Central African Republic's Internal Security Forces present the flag in a ceremony in the capital, Bangui.

MINUSCA

APRIL 2021						
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MAY 2021						
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JUNE 2021						
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
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9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
				 Republic of Cameroon National Day (1972)	28	29
23	24 State of Eritrea Independence Day (1991) 	25	26	27	 Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Downfall of the Derg (1991)	
	30	31				

MAY  
2021



A Zimbabwean Soldier plays with a young boy while his father receives medical care in Chimanimani.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

MAY 2021						
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JUNE 2021						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
					 Republic of Mozambique Independence Day (1975)	 Republic of Madagascar Independence Day (1960)
27	28	29	30			
 Republic of Djibouti Independence Day (1977)		 Republic of Seychelles Independence Day (1976)	 Democratic Republic of the Congo Independence Day (1960)			

JUNE  
2021



Members of the Republic of Guinea's armed forces practice small-unit tactics as part of the Flintlock Exercise in Nouakchott, Mauritania.

U.S. ARMY

JUNE 2021						
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JULY 2021						
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AUGUST 2021						
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29	30	31				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1  Federal Republic of Somalia Republic Day (1960)  Republic of Burundi Independence Day (1962)  Republic of Rwanda Independence Day (1962)	2	3
4	5  People's Democratic Republic of Algeria Independence Day (1962)  Republic of Cabo Verde Independence Day (1975)	6  Republic of Malawi Independence Day (1964)  Union of the Comoros Independence Day (1975)	7	8	9  Republic of South Sudan Independence Day (2011)	10
11	12  Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe Independence Day (1975)	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23  Arab Republic of Egypt Revolution Day (1952)	24
25	26  Republic of Liberia Independence Day (1847)	27	28	29	30	31

JULY  
2021



Senegalese Navy divers deploy during a Navy Day celebration in Dakar.

STAFF SGT. FLOR GONZALEZ/U.S. AFRICA COMMAND

JULY 2021						
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AUGUST 2021						
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SEPTEMBER 2021						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1  Republic of Benin Independence Day (1960)	2	3  Republic of Niger Independence Day (1960)	4	5  Burkina Faso Independence Day (1960)	6	7  Republic of Côte d'Ivoire Independence Day (1960)
8	9	10	11  Republic of Chad Independence Day (1960)	12	13	14
15  Republic of the Congo Independence Day (1960)	16	17  Gabonese Republic Independence Day (1960)	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

AUGUST  
2021



Uganda Wildlife Authority rangers listen during a graduation ceremony for a Counter Illicit Trafficking Junior Leadership Course at Queen Elizabeth National Park.

STAFF SGT. J.D. STRONG II/U.S. AIR FORCE

AUGUST 2021						
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SEPTEMBER 2021						
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OCTOBER 2021						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	 Kingdom of Eswatini Somhlolo Day (1968)					
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
			 Republic of Mali Independence Day (1960)		 Republic of Guinea-Bissau Independence Day (1973)	
26	27	28	29	30		
				 Republic of Botswana Botswana Day (1966)		

SEPTEMBER 2021



South African Soldiers march at the inauguration of President Cyril Ramaphosa at Loftus Versfeld Stadium in Pretoria.  
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SEPTEMBER 2021						
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OCTOBER 2021						
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NOVEMBER 2021						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1  Federal Republic of Nigeria Independence Day (1960)	2  Republic of Guinea Independence Day (1958)
3	4  Kingdom of Lesotho Independence Day (1966)	5	6	7	8	9  Republic of Uganda Independence Day (1962)
10	11	12  Republic of Equatorial Guinea Independence Day (1968)	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 Republic of Zambia Independence Day (1964) 	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

OCTOBER 2021



Soldiers of the Republic of Sierra Leone Armed Forces go through weekly yoga training at the country's military headquarters in Freetown.

REUTERS

OCTOBER 2021						
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NOVEMBER 2021						
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DECEMBER 2021						
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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
				 Republic of Angola Independence Day (1975)		
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
				 Kingdom of Morocco Feast of Independence (1956)		
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
 Islamic Republic of Mauritania Independence Day (1960)						

NOVEMBER 2021



Sailors march at Nyayo National Stadium in Nairobi during a celebration marking Kenya's Independence Day, also known as Jamhuri Day, on December 12.

REUTERS

NOVEMBER 2021

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DECEMBER 2021

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JANUARY 2022

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1  Central African Republic Republic Day (1958)	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12  Republic of Kenya Jamhuri Day (1963)	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24  Libya Independence Day (1951)	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

DECEMBER 2021



A Nigerian Sailor takes a break during Flintlock 20 in Thies, Senegal. Flintlock is an annual African-led military and law enforcement exercise.

PETTY OFFICER 2ND CLASS SEAN CASTELLANO/U.S. NAVY

DECEMBER 2021						
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JANUARY 2022						
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FEBRUARY 2022						
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27	28					

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1  Republic of the Sudan Independence Day (1956)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	30	31				

JANUARY  
2022

An Angolan Soldier walks past a monument honoring the Unknown Soldier in Luanda, Angola. The monument, completed in 2017, is dedicated to the Soldiers who died to preserve the country's freedom.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES



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- If possible, include a high-resolution photograph of yourself and images related to your article with captions and photo credit information.

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70567 Stuttgart, Germany



### ON THE COVER:

Police officers serving in the African Union Mission in Somalia are honored in a ceremony in Mogadishu marking the completion of their one-year tour of duty.

ILYAS AHMED/AMISOM



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