












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)	 April 4 Republic of Senegal Independence Day (1960)
 February 18 Republic of The Gambia Independence Day (1965)	 April 18 Republic of Zimbabwe Independence Day (1980)
 March 6 Republic of Ghana Independence Day (1957)	 April 26 United Republic of Tanzania Union Day (1964)
 March 12 Republic of Mauritius Independence Day (1968)	 April 27 Togolese Republic Independence Day (1960)
 March 20 Republic of Tunisia Independence Day (1956)	 April 27 Republic of Sierra Leone Independence Day (1961)
 March 21 Republic of Namibia Independence Day (1990)	 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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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

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 Republic of The Gambia
Independence Day
(1965)



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

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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
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MARCH
2021



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

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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 Republic of Zimbabwe Independence Day (1980)																											
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				 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

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				 Republic of Cameroon National Day (1972)		
23	24 State of Eritrea Independence Day (1991) 	25	26	27	28	29
30	31				 Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia Downfall of the Derg (1991)	

MAY
2021



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

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

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27		28		29		30				 Republic of Mozambique Independence Day (1975)		 Republic of Madagascar Independence Day (1960)	
 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

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AUGUST 2021						
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								 Republic of Burundi Independence Day (1962)						
								 Republic of Rwanda Independence Day (1962)						
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		 People's Democratic Republic of Algeria Independence Day (1962)	 Republic of Malawi Independence Day (1964)						 Republic of South Sudan Independence Day (2011)					
		 Republic of Cabo Verde Independence Day (1975)	 Union of the Comoros Independence Day (1975)											
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										 Arab Republic of Egypt Revolution Day (1952)				
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		 Republic of Liberia Independence Day (1847)												

JULY
2021










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

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

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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
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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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												 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

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NOVEMBER 2021						
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													 Federal Republic of Nigeria Independence Day (1960)		 Republic of Guinea Independence Day (1958)	
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					 Kingdom of Lesotho Independence Day (1966)										 Republic of Uganda Independence Day (1962)	
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							 Republic of Equatorial Guinea Independence Day (1968)									
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 Republic of Zambia Independence Day (1964)																
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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

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				 Republic of Angola Independence Day (1975)		
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				 Kingdom of Morocco Feast of Independence (1956)		
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 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

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12 <div>Republic of Kenya Jamhuri Day (1963)</div>	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19	20	21	22	23	24 <div>Libya Independence Day (1951)</div>	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31		




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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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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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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The forum allows for an in-depth discussion and exchange of ideas. We want to hear from people in our African partner nations who understand the interests and challenges on the continent. Submit an article for publication in *ADF*, and let your voice be heard.

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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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