

Trio sentenced for respective rape cases

Mahikeng Mail-Mahikeng- The North West Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Baile Motswenyane welcomed 44 and 18 years respective imprisonments handed down by the Klerksdorp Regional Court on Friday, 17 August 2017 to three accused in two different cases.

In the first case, Joseph Dlomo (19) and Johannes Moabi (21) were each sentenced to 22 years imprisonment for raping a 27-year-old woman. On Sunday, 29 December 2013, the woman was on her way home when approached by the two accused who dragged her to a nearby house, threatening her with a knife and then raping her. The accused also robbed the woman of her money and a cell phone. The matter was reported to the police in Kanana and through a comprehensive investigation both the accused were traced and arrested. In another case, Klerksdorp Regional Court also sentenced Tebogo Sibondo (23) to 18 years imprisonment for raping a 20-year-old woman on Tuesday, 26 January 2016 in Jouberton. That was after the accused forced a woman who was walking in the street into his house and raped her several times during the night. The woman was only allowed to go home the following day. The matter was reported to the police in Jouberton who traced and arrested the suspect.

24/08/17 Mahikeng Mail pg 28 MWSAPS POS

24/08/17 JMA pg 3 MWSAPS POS

Two mine managers jailed for corruption

ELFAS TORERAI

TWO mine managers were jailed for five years each after they were found guilty of demanding kickbacks from a service provider they approached to provide training services.

Daniel Lazarus Nape, 40, and Martin Lottering, 50, were found guilty of corruption by the Rustenburg Regional Court.

They were both sentenced to five years' direct imprisonment.

Nape and Lottering were arrested by the Hawks on September 17, 2015 after extensive investigations into their dealings.

Hawks provincial head Maj-Gen Linda Mbana said the two worked as head and deputy head of training respectively at a Marikana mine when they committed the crime.

"It is alleged that the duo promised a R1m tender to the managing director of a service provider for training. In return, he was expected to pay the two R30 000 per month.

"The duo made a series of appearances in court until they were sentenced," Mbana said.

She said the direct imprisonment sentence sent a warning to those



JAIL: Two mine managers will do time for demanding kickbacks.

thinking about engaging in any criminal activities.

"We applaud the investigative efforts of the team that worked on the case for their dedication that has secured a conviction," she said.

Mbana said corruption was a serious crime and people should refrain from corrupt activities.

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24/08/17 TNA Pg 1 NWSAPS POS

Stepdad gets life for rape

ELFAS TORERAI

A MAN, 52, from Brits, was slapped with a life sentence after he was convicted for the rape of his 11-year-old stepdaughter.

The man was also sentenced to eight years imprisonment for the attempted murder of his victim.

The two sentences were handed down by the Brits Regional Court this week.

North West police commissioner Lt-Gen Baile Motswenyane congratulated a team of officers from the Brits Family Violence, Child Protection and Sexual Offences unit for working hard to secure the conviction.

She further said the hefty sentences handed down clearly sent a message to

those found guilty of similar offences.

Police spokesperson Lit-Col Amanda Funani said: "It was reported at the time of the incident that the accused raped his stepdaughter several times while she was visiting him during the school holidays at Damonville near Brits."

She further said the man had threatened to kill the victim if she ever told her mother about the rape.

"The victim's mother got suspicious when her daughter started showing signs of sickness. She was taken to hospital and a medical report revealed that she was raped. When questioned, the girl confessed that her stepfather raped her," Funani said.

The accused was then arrested.

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POS 24/08/17 Mahikeng Mail Pg 28 NWSAPS

SAPS continue investigation in Majakaneng as roads open

Mahikeng Mail-Mahikeng- Roads in North West, including the N4, R104 and R566 routes are now open after they have been closed a week ago due to violent protests in the area.

These protests erupted in Majakaneng last week after a farmer allegedly shot a man for allegedly stealing oranges on his farm. According to reports and the police, the body of the victim has not yet been allocated.

"The SAPS assured the DA that the situation in Majakaneng is closely monitored and that they are continuing to investigate the matter," said Herman Groenewald, DA Constituency Head,

Rustenburg.

"The police also assured us that they will provide much-needed feedback to the community once they have any proof, to help restore calm to the community.

"The DA also calls on the community to remain calm and not take the law into their own hands but to allow the police to do their jobs," he concluded.

Herman Groenewald MP - DA Constituency Head, Rustenburg



Illegal taxis too must comply argues taxi association

MAHIKENG MAIL-MAHIKENG: Following the decision by the Traffic Department, South Africa Police Service and the local Taxi Association to ban illegal taxis from operating in Mahikeng and stop illegal hiking the provincial capital, over 60 vehicles were impounded and several arrests were effected, reports Teboho Letsela.

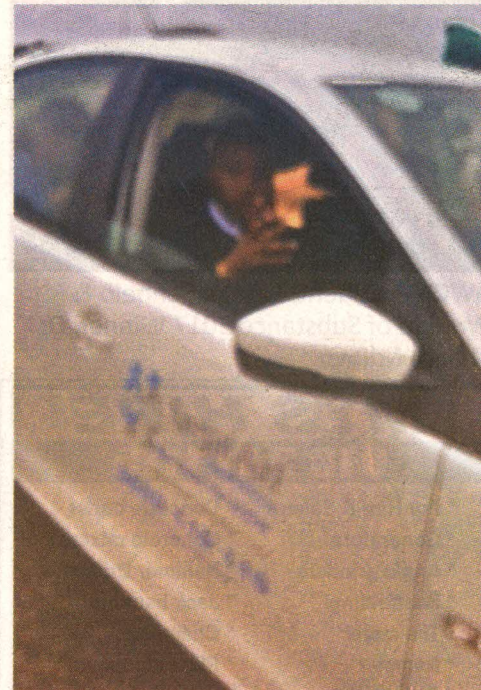
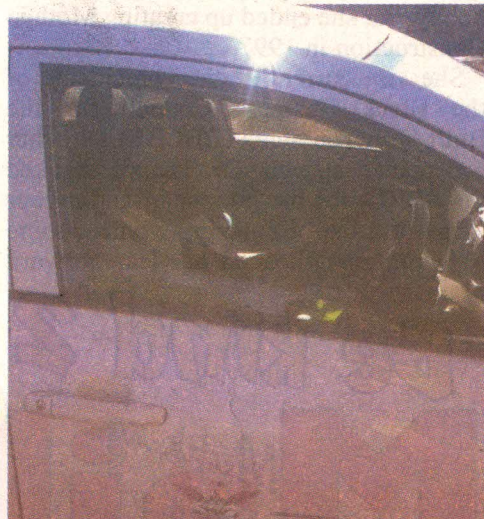
In an interview with Mahikeng Mail last week, Chairperson of South African National Taxi Council (SANTACO), Seatile Johannes Batantse said, "All illegal taxis around Mahikeng must come forward and join the association as they are not operating under the law and therefore put many lives in danger by boarding passengers illegally. We are willing to work together with them as long as they comply with us as an association".

Secretary of BOLTA, G.J Mogotsi remarked, "for us to be here is to ensure that there is no illegal boarding in Mahikeng because the taxi industry is starting to lose business because of people who know that they are breaking the law. We pay tax, vehicle license discs, fees under the association but we are not gaining anything in return. We take our work very serious as we provide for our families while others tend to freely benefit from our hard".

Many people who decide to hitchhike

encounter endless challenges of rape cases, robberies and accidents by illegal operators on the roads.

Mogotsi further said, "We have provided solid evidence to the transport department and have shown them government cars, police vehicles and private companies boarding people around Mahikeng. We have their pictures with us and when we ask them why they are doing this they say they make extra money for themselves which is very wrong. We would like to warn private owners of vehicles that it is within their rights to board anyone they wish but they must not deprive us from many a living and encouraging more people to hitchhike".



Government and private vehicles boarding passengers illegally

24/08/17 Mahikeng Mail pg 1 Bestim pos.

24/08/17 TMA Pg4 National/SAPS POS -

Police consider use of drones to fight crime

DENNIS CRUYWAGEN

THE South African Police Service (SAPS) is going high tech in its surveillance methods and is working on a strategy to introduce the use of drones as part of its crime-fighting strategy.

SAPS top management disclosed this in a briefing to the police portfolio committee in Parliament yesterday. South Africa's premier scientific research and development organisation, the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, is working on how the SAPS can use drones, which are virtual eyes in the sky or can even be used as weapons of war, in its operations.

"They started this year. We want to use drones in crowd management and other operations," deputy national commissioner Lt-Gen Fannie Masemola said yesterday.

During yesterday's briefing, acting national commissioner Lesetja Mothiba also admitted that the SAPS was not making inroads into finding its members colluding with gangs.

"We are not making the necessary inroads. It's long-term investigations. We are not happy with the progress that is being made," Mothiba said.

ANC member of Parliament Leonard Ramatlakane told the police delegation that such legislation exists. He urged the SAPS to peruse the Western Cape High Court decision which had effectively outlawed a number of gangs in the province.

"Why are you not using that existing judgment? It has never been challenged. It says very clearly that those activities in terms of the Prevention of Organised Crime Act are unlawful," Ramatlakane said.

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