

Pa 7 22/03/18 SARS NW (POS) The Mail - POS

Provincial suspect raiding operation nets 280 suspects

MAHIKENG MAIL-MAHIKENG: The provincial detectives nabbed 280 suspects at all seven policing clusters for various offences through suspect raiding operations held between last Thursday and Friday as part of the ongoing Operation Fiela II police programme.

The suspects included 133 arrested for various incidents of assaults, 17 for common robbery, 17 for malicious damage to property, 15 for rape, 22 for residential and business burglary, 16 for theft while others were nabbed for numerous other offences. Of these arrests, 68 were for crimes against women and children.

A total of 75 suspects were arrested in Klerksdorp, 56 in Rustenburg, 45 in

Mahikeng, and 43 in Brits while others were arrested in Zeerust, Vryburg and Pudimoe clusters.

The North West Provincial Commissioner, Lieutenant General Baile Motswenyane lauded the members for their hard work that led to the success of the operation. She said that the police would continue with various operations to make certain that perpetrators were brought to book.

Truck burnt in protest

A TRUCK was set alight and a man arrested during a service delivery protest at Manamakgotheng outside Rustenburg, North West police said yesterday.

Lieutenant-Colonel Amanda Funani said a truck, passing through the village, was torched on Tuesday and one man was arrested for malicious damage to property.

He was expected to appear in the Mankwe Magistrate's Court in Mogwase this morning.

Residents of Manamakgotheng embarked on a protest demanding better services.

The Moses Kotane municipality appealed to residents to refrain from disruptive behaviour. - African News Agency (ANA)

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Students escape thugs

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STUDENTS living off campus of North West University in Mahikeng have been targets of crime for years.

Just in the past weeks, two students, Mpho Moswang (19) and Simikezile Madigizela, were attacked and robbed in separate incidents.

Moswang was attacked in her room at Dibate Village and was shot on her right shoulder by unknown assailants wearing balacavas.

Madigizela was assaulted, robbed and stabbed several times in the bushy area around a train level crossing in Unit 6 on Thursday night.

Both victims are still recuperating at Bophelong and Victoria hospitals.

Moswang recalled: "Two men gained entry into my room after they

tampered with the door. I was woken up by the commotion they made outside.

"One of them fired a warning shot into the roof. Another reached for my laptop and I was shot in the right arm. They fled the scene with my laptop. I thought I was going to die."

University spokesman Christopher Motabogi confirmed the attacks on students. He said the university was trying to solve the campus accommodation shortage.

"One such initiative is the revamping of the old hotel, which upon completion will accommodate an additional 600 students," said Motabogi.

Student leader Paseka Molete urged police to carry out patrols in the areas where students live.



Mpho Moswang was shot on her shoulder by thugs.

Photo by Orsile Tiape

Police spokeswoman Lieutenant-Colonel Pelonomi Makau confirmed the incidents.

"We have arrested one suspect in connection with two cases and other suspects are still at large. House robbery and attempted murder cases have been opened," she said.

Mmabatho saps embarked on enormous anti-crime awareness campaign

Pg 15 22/03/18 Mdhikeng Mail SAPS NW (PREG)
MAHIKENG MAIL-MAHIKENG: The Police in Mmabatho in collaboration with Mmabatho Community Policing Forum (CPF) and Mahikeng Local Municipality By-Laws, embarked on an enormous anti-crime awareness campaign aimed at addressing crimes of theft out of motor vehicle, carjacking, house robbery, rape, drug abuse, police killings and drug dealings.

The campaign encompassed distribution of pamphlets and sensitization of residents with safety tips and followed by a door to door awareness campaign last Tuesday in Mmabatho's Unit 10 and 12 and was subsequently continued on Wednesday at Units 13 and 14.

The participants were divided into small groups to enable them to virtually cover the entire area in their endeavour to fight and eradicate the crime scourge.

The three days initiative ended at Mega City Shopping Mall on Friday in a static setting, with a blessing by the Mmabatho Station Commander Brigadier Mokobori together with the Correctional Services and National Prosecuting Authority.

In addressing the shoppers and business operators at the centre, the station commander encouraged them to stand united against crime by reporting any suspicious people or activities to the police.

"The police will never lose hope in ensuring that you are and feel safe where ever you are, but you must also play your role of always being sceptical of buying discounted goods from strangers as there is no certainty to their legitimacy, think twice, report crime," she concluded.

Meanwhile, Shoppers were also warned not to leave their vehicle windows open and doors unlocked when left unattended, while hundreds of pamphlets outlining safety tips and procedures of reporting domestic violence were being distributed by other participants.



Sergeant Lesedi Dingoko of Mmabatho communications, Warrant officer Mohotlheng together with community policing officer (CPO).

MEC calls for calm after murders

ELFAS TORERAI

COMMUNITY safety MEC Dr Mpho Motlhabane has appealed for calm in Gopane village, near Zeerust, after two gruesome murders have left the community on edge.

A 75-year-old woman was found murdered last week, prompting community members to hunt for the perpetrator.

A man suspected to have killed the grandmother was then captured and reportedly hanged by an angry mob.

Condemning the vigilante action, Motlhabane said residents should not interfere with police investigations.

"We need the community of Gopane

to have confidence in our South African Police Service. I trust that the police will leave no stone unturned as they investigate this matter.

"Our police have proved in a number of similar cases that they have the capability of doing their job with passion and commitment."

Motlhabane said it should be borne in mind that in some of the cases, there are certain prescripts that prohibits the police to divulge to the communities



Mpho Motlhabane

their progress reports.

"Giving feedback prematurely might have a negative effect on investigations and jeopardise prospects of a successful conviction.

"However, we do acknowledge that there are some shortfalls with regard to communicating with communities or affected people," he said.

The MEC requested community members to assist the police with any information to fast-track investigations.

"To the families of the deceased, we say these are unfortunate actions and we wish the families to gain strength during this period of mourning."

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Motlhabane calls for calm in Gopane village

MAHIKENG MAIL – GOPANE: The North West Community Safety and Transport Management MEC, Dr Mpho Motlhabane this week appealed to the community of Gopane to calm down and allow the SAPS to thoroughly investigate several murder cases in the village where tensions between different families reached boiling point last week.

MEC Motlhabane's appeal followed an incident in which a man was allegedly hanged by angry community members after he was accused of killing a 75-year-old woman in the village last Friday.

Police reported that the woman was found dead with an open wound in her head inside her house. The angry community took the law into their own hands by assaulting and hanging the man they suspected of having killed the woman. "All we need is for communities of Gopane to have confidence in our South African Police Service. I trust that SAPS will leave no stone unturned as they investigate this matter.

Our police have proven in a number of similar cases that they have capability of doing their job with passion and commitment.

"It must be borne in mind that in some of the cases, there are certain prescripts that prohibits the police to divulge to the communities their progress reports. Giving feedback prematurely might have a negative effect on the investigations and jeopardise prospects of successful conviction. "However, we do acknowledge that there are some shortfalls with regard to communicating with communities or affected people. In certain areas, of the cases reported to our police stations, we, as a department often encourage our police to keep constant contact with our communities as we also need their cooperation with police," said Motlhabane.

Motlhabane requested the communities to assist the police with any information that can fast track the police investigations.

The MEC further sent his heartfelt condolences to the families of the two deceased. "These are unfortunate actions, and we wish the families to gain strength during this period of mourning," he added.

Call for calm after hanging

North West community safety and transport management MEC, Dr Mpho Motlhabane, yesterday appealed for calm in Gopane village near Zeerust after a man was allegedly hanged by community members.

The 23-year-old man was accused of killing a 75-year-old woman on March 16.

The woman was found dead with an open wound on her head inside her house. Furious residents allegedly assaulted and hanged the man. He died at the scene.

"All we need is for communities of Gopane to have confidence in our South African Police Service," said Motlhabane. "I trust that Saps will leave no stone unturned as they investigate this matter. Our police have proven in a number of similar cases that they have capability of doing their job with passion and commitment."

Motlhabane said it must be borne in mind that in some criminal cases, there are certain precepts that prohibit police from divulging to the communities their progress reports.

"Giving feedback prematurely might have a negative effect on the investigations and jeopardise prospects of successful conviction. However, we do acknowledge that there are some shortfalls with regard to communicating with communities or affected people," he said.

"In certain areas, of the cases reported to our police stations, we, as a department, often encourage our police to keep constant contact with our communities as we also need their cooperation with police."

Lehurutshe Rise, a non-profit organisation formed by local youth to protect the elderly, said it was saddened by the killing of the elderly woman.

The organisation plans to stage a peaceful march on March 31 in Gopane to highlight the plight of the elderly.

Spokesperson Moiloa Moagi said the march was planned over the weekend as most of Gopane's youth would be home for the Easter holidays. - ANA

MEC Motlhabane to fight Pg 7-22/03/18-Mohiteng Mail-DCS & TM -Nedwa1 Gangsterism in Bloemhof

MAHIKENG MAIL-BLOEMHOF: MEC for community safety and transport management, Dr Mpho Motlhabane, recently embarked on challenges of gangsterism in Bloemhof, in the Lekwa-Teemane Local Municipality.

As part of the provincial government's determination to fight growing incidents of violence perpetrated by gangsters operating in the small town, MEC Motlhabane led government departments and stakeholders intervening in an integrated approach to the challenges of the scourge.

Despite intervention started and defeated during the previous financial year, the area has again recently experienced another outbreak of spades gang violence and gang

murder

incidences which have ravaged and tormented the community. Community members are living in fear and unsafe environment. MEC Motlhabane said gang violence was a critical social and economic issue and it exerted a high toll of panic and distress on the general public as well as the business community at large.

It unfortunately brings a negative impact on both business and potential investment opportunities.