

# Mahumapelo appoints team to focus on Ditsobotla protests

**Mahikeng Mail-Mahikeng:** Premier Supra Mahumapelo has appointed a team comprising five MECs and two Mayors to investigate and unravel service delivery challenges which prompted this week's public violent protests at Lichtenburg town and Blydeville township in Ditsobotla Local Municipality.

The team which will be led by MEC Sello Lehari of Education and Sport Development, includes MECs Fenny Gaolaolwe of Local Government and Human Settlements, Dr Mpho Motlhabane of Community Safety and Transport Management, Dr Magome Masike of Health, Wendy Nelson of Finance, Economy and Enterprise Development, Executive

and Mayor of Ditsobotla Local Municipality Cllr Daniel Buthelezi.

Calling for stability and calm in the Local Municipality, Premier Mahumapelo has urged residents to shun all violent and criminal acts that could hinder growth and development of their local Mahumapelo.

Wnt Mail Eq 3 28/04/17 Dep't Pos

# Calm returns to Coligny

28/04/2017 THE CITIZEN Pg7 SAPS (Pos) ~~NA~~

**INCREASED PRESENCE: POLICE WILL KEEP AN EYE ON THE AREA**

» **Shops looted, police vehicle and houses torched during community's anger after boy's death.**

**Steven Tau**

**A**lthough calm appears to have returned to the troubled areas of Coligny and Lichtenburg in the past two days, police officers will continue to patrol in the area, says the SA Police Service (Saps).

This week, provincial police officers had their hands full trying to defuse what turned into a volatile situation.

Four houses were torched, as

well as a police Nyala.

Shops were also looted.

What started as a protest over lack of service delivery turned into a race war, which was sparked by the death of a 12-year-old boy.

According to reports, the boys' death was allegedly caused by a white farm owner.

However, speaking to *The Citizen* yesterday, national police spokesperson Brigadier Vish Naidoo said the two men who were arrested this week in connection with the boys' death were expected to appear in court today.

He said 48 people were arrested on charges of public violence and looting.

"Already, 14 people who were

arrested [have] appeared in court. [They] were remanded in custody while their cases have been postponed to Wednesday.

"Those who were arrested on charges of stolen goods were released on bail of R300 each," he said.

Naidoo said police were still looking for suspects who torched a police Nyala this week, stressing that it was not true that police officers reacted slowly to this week's violent protests in the area.

Naidoo said although the situation in all areas that were affected by the violent protest this week have stabilised, the increased police presence in the area would remain until such time that law

and order has been fully restored in the community.

He said police officers who were deployed to another tense area in Vuwani, Limpopo, would also remain there as the total shutdown of services protest action continues in its third week, with no end in sight.

Spokesperson for the pro-Makhado Demarcation Task Team in Vuwani, Nsovo Sambo, said the shutdown, which has resulted in children being barred from going to school and businesses prevented from operating during the week, will again be suspended, but only for the weekend, starting from today.

"We could have suspended the shutdown starting on Freedom Day, but there is nothing to celebrate on the day because we still don't have freedom of association and freedom to gather."

- [stevent@citizen.co.za](mailto:stevent@citizen.co.za)

*48 people were arrested on charges of public violence and looting.*

# New born baby girl dumped in rubbish bin

**Mahikeng Mail-Mahikeng:** A case of concealment of birth has once more been registered at Mmabatho Police Station for investigation following the recovery of a foetus in a rubbish bin by a passer-by on April 13.

According to information received, the passer-by was looking for food and empty tins along University Drive when he saw the foetus inside the rubbish bin. Coincidentally, the same passer-by made a similar discovery, April 06 along University Drive. Having seen this demeaning act again, the dismayed passer-by did not hesitate to go and report the incident at the police station.

The police request anyone with information regarding the incidents to call Detective Warrant Officer Tale on 073 4517 145 or Constable Lehuco on 079 897 1825.



Forensics officer taking images at the scene

28/04/17 PRETORIA News Pg 2 MASAB POS

# 48 arrested after violent protests in Coligny area

## MOLAOLE MONTSHO

AT LEAST 48 people were arrested during violent protests around the Ditsobotla local municipality, national police said.

Brigadier Vishnu Naidoo said North West police managed the situation adequately, and that a national intervention was deemed necessary.

He said additional deployments from the Public Order Policing Unit, the Tactical Response Team and Visible Policing were deployed to the areas of Lichtenburg, Coligny, Itsoeng and Blydeville.

"The heightened visibility of police members and targeted operations immediately helped to stabilise the area," he said.

"During these stability operations, 48 people were arrested.

"This included the arrest of six people for public violence, two for setting the police nyala alight and 42 for possession of goods allegedly

stolen during looting sprees which accompanied the violence."

Two men were also arrested in connection with the death of a 12-year-old boy in Coligny.

"The death of the young boy is believed to have sparked the violence in the Coligny area.

"Both suspects are in police custody and will appear in court in due course."

Naidoo said the arrest of those involved in criminal activities was indicative that the police would not tolerate any form of violence or lawlessness.

Three houses, three trucks and a tractor were torched in Coligny and several shops were looted.

Three trucks were also set alight in Blydeville, Lichtenburg, during the violent protest that flared in Blydeville last Friday and spilled over to Coligny and Itsoeng.

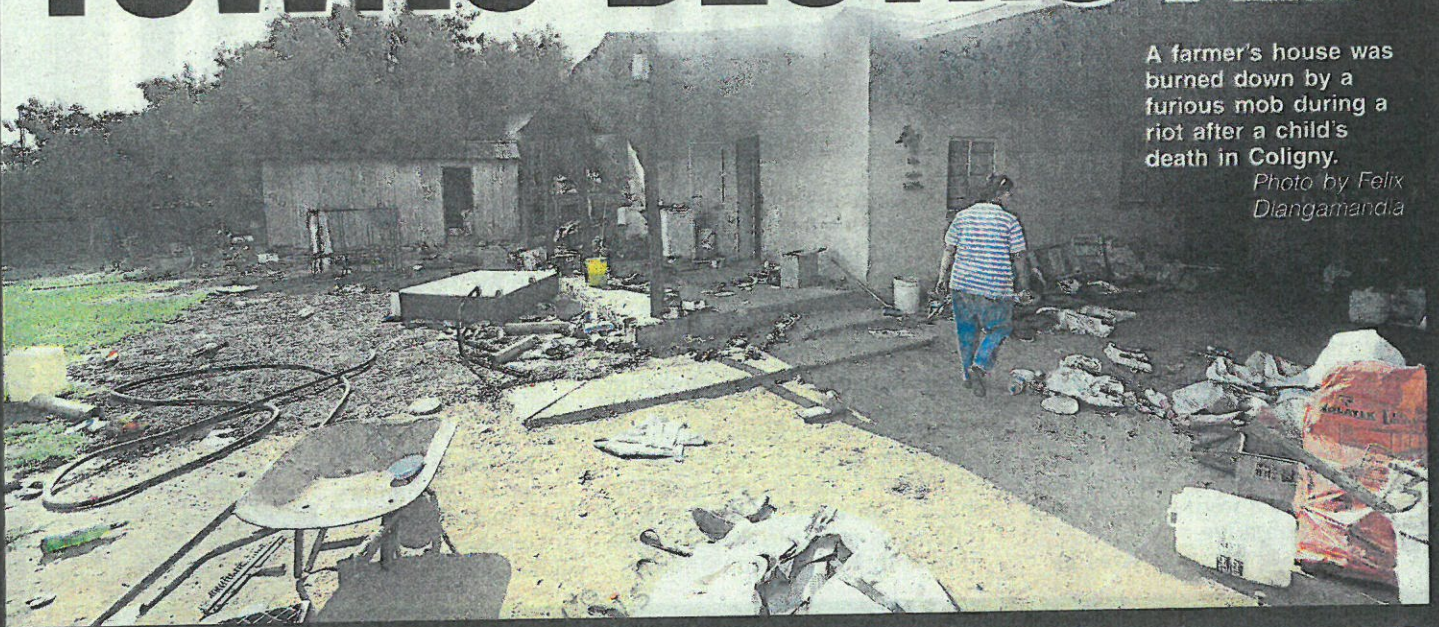
A police armoured vehicle was torched in Blydeville on Monday.

- ANA

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28 April 2017 SAPS Neg

# TOWNS DESTROYED



A farmer's house was burned down by a furious mob during a riot after a child's death in Coligny.

Photo by Felix Diangamanda

## Residents feel hopeless after violent protests

By **EVERSON LUHANGA**

**THE violence in Lichtenburg and Coligny has died down but a trail of destruction remains.**

Some residents of the North West towns, especially shop owners, described the carnage as unbearable, with one even vowing to close up shop.

North West police spokesman, Colonel Sabata Mokgwabone, yesterday told *News24* the two towns were quiet.

He said the cost of the damage caused by protesters would be determined by a municipal investigation in the coming days.

On Tuesday, protesters took to the streets in Coligny after a 12-year-old boy died when he apparently jumped from a moving bakkie which was being driven

by two men.

The protest soon turned violent and saw three houses and a tavern go up in smoke, while shops were looted.

In Lichtenburg a protest against poor service delivery saw several shops being looted.

Three trucks were set alight by protesters on Monday.

Police couldn't yet confirm whether a fire at an irrigation equipment supplier's building on Tuesday evening was connected to the protest.

Mokgwabone said police were monitoring the situation in both towns.

North West Premier Supra Mahumapelo has appointed a team of five MECs and two mayors to investigate the cause of the violent protests.

Mahumapelo urged protesters to give the team an opportunity to investigate their concerns and to stay away from violent and criminal activity.

The situation in Coligny was on a knife's edge on Tuesday morning, with white farmers and residents standing guard in the town's residential area.

Police arrested seven protesters in Lichtenburg on Monday.

"This brings to 21 the number of arrests," Mokgwabone said.

Buddy Shalala, the owner of a furniture shop in Coligny, said he was closing his business after more than 70 years.

"We are heartbroken because the whole town has been destroyed.

"The damage to my business must be close to R500 000."

...people clean up in front of a liquor store that was damaged and looted during violent demonstrations in Coligny, North West. The protest action was sparked by the death of a boy. Picture: Reuters

28/04/2017 THE CITIZEN Pg 7 SAPS Neutral  
ALLEGEDLY JUMPED OR FELL FROM MOVING BAKKIE

# Boy who died before violence not yet identified

A 12-year-old boy who died after allegedly jumping or falling from a moving bakkie in Coligny in North West has not been identified, a week after he died.

North West police spokesperson Brigadier Sabata Mokgwabone confirmed that the boy, who

died on April 20 after he allegedly fell or jumped from a bakkie driven by a white farmer, was still unidentified.

The farmer was alleged to have found the boy stealing a sunflower from his field close to Scotland informal settlement.

The boy was put into the bakkie, but allegedly jumped or fell out when it slowed down to negotiate a curve. He was injured and died later.

His death triggered a violent protest in which at least four houses and three trucks were

torched and several shops in the small maize producing town were looted.

North West police said two men, aged 26 and 33, had been arrested on Tuesday in connection with the boy's death. -ANA

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houses and three trucks were torched and several shops in the small maize-producing town were looted.

North West police said two men aged 26 and 33 had been arrested on Tuesday in connection with the boy's death. They were expected to appear in the Coligny Magistrate's Court today, facing a charge of murder.

Dozens more have been

arrested for offences relating to the burning of a police vehicle, looting and possession of suspected stolen goods in Coligny and Blydeville in Lichtenburg.

Police said six people were arrested for public violence, two for setting the police Nyala alight and 42 for possession of goods allegedly stolen during looting spree which accompanied the violent protest. - ANA

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# Drivers urged to be vigilant

TNA REPORTER

TRANSPORT Minister Joe Maswanganyi has urged drivers, pedestrians and passengers to be vigilant and prioritise road safety.

Maswanganyi's message came as many took to the country's roads to travel to various destinations at the long weekend as the country commemorated Freedom Day yesterday, ahead of Workers Day on Monday.

The minister said law enforcement officers would be stationed on roads to curb lawlessness.

"Our law enforcement officers have ramped-up their road safety focus on high risk driving behaviour and will be targeting the well-known contributors to serious and fatal injury accidents with our operations focusing on speeding, drunk driving, vehicle defects, seat belt offences and inattentive driving," Maswanganyi said.

Drunk driving, speeding, and reckless and negligent driving, among others, were blamed for the country's high road casualty rate.

Holidays and long weekends are often the deadliest period on South Africa's roads. A total of 235 people were killed during the Easter weekend compared to 156 last year.

Maswanganyi said alcohol, speed and not wearing seat belts were seen to have contributed to fatalities and injuries during the Easter road safety campaign.



**ROAD SAFETY:** Transport Minister Joe Maswanganyi has urged motorists and pedestrians to be cautious over the long weekend. PICTURE:THAPELO MOREBUDI

"We will be out in force on the roads this long weekend to spread the message that road safety is everyone's responsibility and needs to be taken seriously."

The minister said public education activations and operations by law enforcement agencies were planned for the long weekend ahead of UN Global Road Safety Week, to be

launched on May 8.

"We too can change our behaviour on our roads and renew our common loyalty to our country and commit to our future by being responsible on our roads, making it possible for South Africa to reduce the road carnage by 50% in 2020, in line with our commitment to the UN Decade of Action for Road Safety." - 701478

25/04/17 Pretoria News Pg 2  
**SAA strike in the air**  
(Nat Transport) Pcs

DESPITE operations at SAA returning to normal, the SA Cabin Crew Association (Sacca) says its legal team is working on a review of the interdict against them.

On Wednesday about 200 flight attendants were gathered outside the SAA head office in Kempton Park in protest against low international meal allowances.

They are asking for a \$170 (R2 260) allowance, up from \$130.

"Our members have returned to work to respect the law. We are not sure when (the review) will be ready," Sacca president Zazi Sibanyoni-Mugambi said after the interdict granted by the Labour Court to stop the strike. - ANA

# MINISTER: ALL WILL BENEFIT!



## Rail project is about to start

Front, from left: Minister Joe Maswanganyi, MEC Sasekani Manzini and ANC chairman Speedy Mashilo at the construction site. Photo by Bongani Mthimunywe

23/04/17 Daily Sun Pg 15 Net Transport Pos:  
By BONGANI MTHIMUNYWE

**CONSTRUCTION of the long-awaited Moloto Rail Corridor begins soon.**

On Tuesday, Transport Minister Joe Maswanganyi visited the construction site in Kwaggafontein, Mpumalanga accompanied by his deputy, Sindisiwe Chikunga, and MEC Sasekani Manzini.

"I am not going to change anything my predecessors have already done, but make sure work begins.

"The project will address the challenges of poverty, inequality and unemployment. The object is to reduce accidents and change socio-economic challenges between Pretoria and Marble Hall.

"Work is already in progress and will create jobs for local people. We are going to use a new system to tender for work. Everyone will get an opportunity to benefit from the project."

He said the rail corridor, including the train and roadworks, will cost government R4,5 billion and 12 000 jobs will be created. Already, 58 000 people have registered for jobs with the project. Maswanganyi said the corridor will offer a safe, fast and accessible connection between Mpumalanga, Gauteng and Limpopo. The rail system will form the backbone of public transport and corridor development.

Deputy transport minister Sindisiwe Chikunga said the South African Network for Women in Transport must be supported in all provinces.

"Women and youth must be given jobs, especially in projects on the roads. Many young people and women will be trained by this big project."

Manzini said the focus was on youth and women and asked people to get their co-operatives in order to benefit.