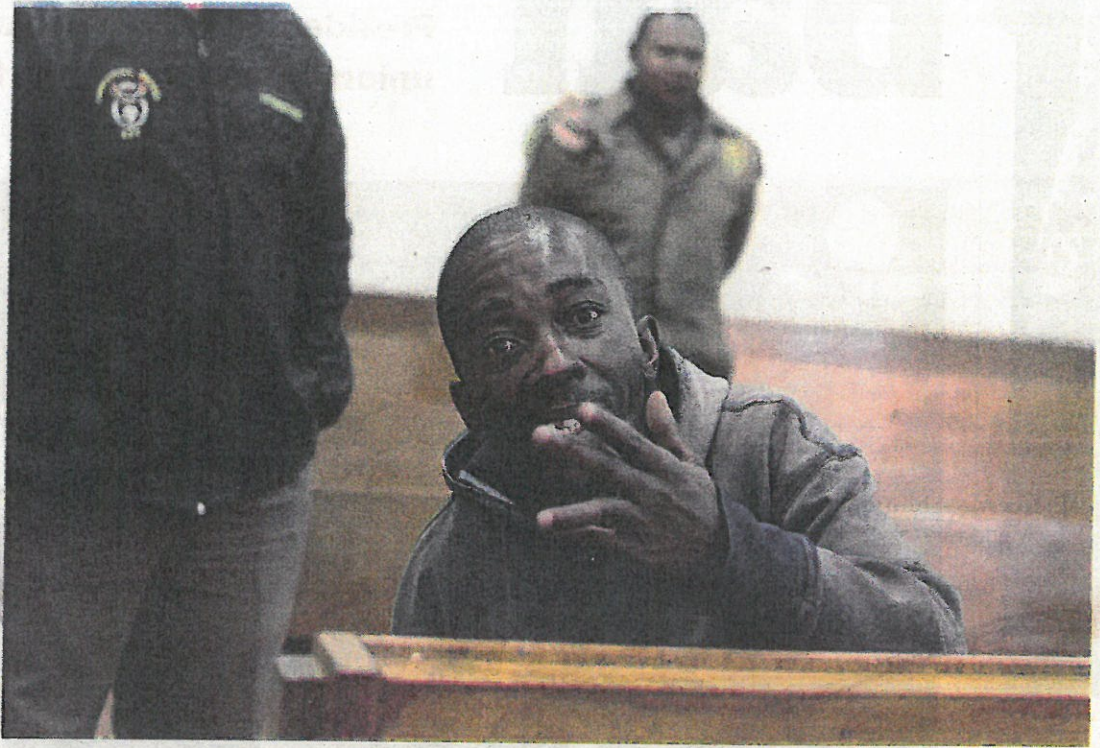


NW&APS POS.



Abram Mosete gestures during his sentencing hearing in the Itsoseng Regional Court near Mahikeng, North West, for rape and several other cases. / TIRO RAMATLHATSE

Career criminal gets life

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Mosete raped ill teen during parole

By **Boitumelo Tshehle**

A North West man who raped a mentally ill teenager was sentenced to life by the Itsoseng Regional Court yesterday.

Buti Abram Mosete, 38, who was on parole at the time of the rape last year is a repeat offender after a previous rape conviction. He was released on parole in 2012.

Mosete's long-term criminal career includes cases for robbery, housebreaking, pointing of firearms and malicious damage to property.

During his pre-sentence report read in court, the social worker who assessed him, Ineeleng Tsamai, told the court that after Mosete raped the vic-

tim, his mother told the victim not to tell her parents as her son would kill the girl.

Tsamai said Mosete had a behavioural problem and abused alcohol.

Reading out his previous convictions, state prosecutor Bennie Kalakgosi said that in September 1997 he was convicted of pointing a firearm and malicious damage to property.

In September 1999, he was convicted of robbery and in July 2000, he was again convicted of robbery.

Kalakgosi said that in February 2001, Mosete was found guilty of housebreaking with intent to steal.

In May 2002, he was convicted on two counts of robbery, and the following year he was sentenced to five years for rape. In June 2004, he was convicted of rape again and this time sen-

tenced to 15 years in jail.

In 2012, he was out on parole and in May 2013 he was arrested for damaging the fence of property belonging to the department of public works.

He then escaped from police custody and four days later raped a mentally ill teen.

Imposing the sentence, magistrate Thabo Lephadi said Mosete's crime spree was disheartening. "It is clear that the accused started committing crime at the age of 19 years.

"He's 38, in other words he has lived 19 years of his life as a criminal."

Lephadi said it was clear Mosete had not been rehabilitated from all his previous sentences. He sentenced him to four months for malicious damage to property, 18 months for escaping from police custody and life sentence for rape.

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Man appears for illegal firearms

ELFAS TORERAI

A 36-YEAR-OLD man arrested for possession of illegal firearms will appear in the Rustenburg Magistrate's Court today.

The man was arrested after a high-speed chase in Rustenburg's Waterfall East area at the weekend. Three others who were travelling with him managed to flee on foot, evading arrest.

North West police spokesperson, Sgt Kelebogile Moleko said: "The police were on patrol when they spotted a suspicious silver BMW outside a bank. The police approached the driver who

sped off and a car chase ensued.

"According to information, the suspect and his three accomplices were cornered at a residential complex in Waterfall East. Three of them managed to flee and evaded arrest. The fourth suspect was arrested and three pistols, ammunition, balaclavas and gloves were seized."

Moleko said that investigations revealed that the vehicle was rented in Klerksdorp and false registration number plates were affixed on it at the time of the incident. "A case of illegal possession of firearms and ammunition has been registered."

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04/07/17 TMA Pg 1 MWSAPS Neg

Police on the hunt for farm killers

ELFAS TORERAI

NORTH West police are on the lookout for people who attacked and killed two farmers in areas around Vryburg at the weekend.

In the first incident, Elsa Erasmus, 74, who stayed alone, was abducted and killed at her farm situated between Amalia and Vryburg.

The farmer's whereabouts became subject to police investigations after her friends realised that her house had been ransacked.

North West police spokesperson Sgt Kelebogile Moleko said the attack occurred on Friday night.

"An unknown number of people forced open the burglar gate, abducted

the deceased and drove away in her vehicle. However, police found the bakkie abandoned on the farm on Saturday," Moleko said.

"Erasmus' body was later found a few metres from the bakkie. No one has been arrested."

In the other incident, a man is said to have been fatally shot when he was attacked together with his family at Friesland farm near Vryburg.

"Allegations are that five suspects held the victim and his wife at gunpoint, demanding money. It is not clear why they then shot the deceased. The wife was also shot on the hand and had to be taken to hospital for medical attention," Moleko said.

She said the police had opened a

murder and attempted murder case but no one had been arrested yet.

DA acting provincial leader Sello Motswenyane said the two deaths are part of a continuing trend that the government has to urgently attend to.

"These are not once-off incidents, but the latest in a persistently escalating string of farm attacks. This once again demonstrates the immense urgency to establish rural safety units in farming areas," Motswenyane said.

"The two farmers were vulnerable members of our society, who had the right to be safe in their homes. Instead, they were attacked and murdered. Our prayers and thoughts are with the loved ones of both these farmers and the whole community affected."