

Fighting racism

Future generations must not know racial colours, North West premier Supra Mahumapelo said yesterday. "Our people need to come together in their diversity to fight racism whenever it raises its ugly head. It is sad that we still have many people discriminating against others because of the colour of their skin," he said at a Saam Werk, Saam Trek Dialogue (loosely translates to work together, pull together) at the North West University's Potchefstroom Campus. He said there would be challenges before a discrimination-free South Africa could be achieved. "We have a responsibility to build a united, democratic, non-racial North West province." - ANA

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NWSARS

NEWSWATCH

Protesters burn eight vehicles

At least six trucks and two buses were set alight during a protest in Bapong near Brits, North West police said yesterday.

Police spokesperson Warrant Officer Mpeile Talane said a total of eight vehicles had been torched since the protest started on Monday.

"One truck was burnt on Monday and two buses and five trucks on Tuesday."

He said three people were arrested for public violence and would appear in the Brits Magistrate's Court soon.

The situation was calm yesterday. - ANA

THE CITIZEN - 29/07 - 30/07/17 - NWSARS - POSITIVE

Life imprisonment for rapist

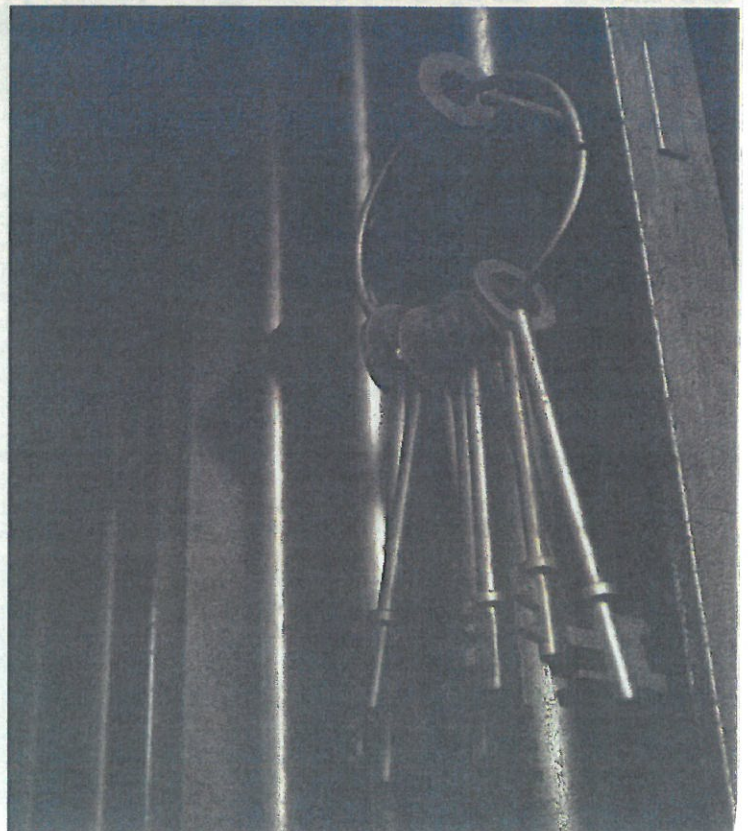
Mahikeng Mail - Klerksdorp - The North West South African Police Service management welcomed a life imprisonment sentence handed down to Retshiditswe Fokotsane (36) by the Klerksdorp Regional Court last Thursday.

In July 2016, a 38-year-old victim and her friend went to a dumping site in Klerksdorp where they met the accused. The latter was known to the victim. It was reported that the accused then asked the victim to accompany him to his house to collect meat for her and the others.

The accused, upon arrival at his house, took out an axe and threatened to cut the victim into pieces if she refused to undress. Fokotsane ultimately raped the victim several times before taking her back to the dumping site the following day. The police were alerted about the incident and the accused was traced and arrested.

The North West Acting Provincial Commissioner, Major General Ryno Naidoo, applauded the investigating team for a sterling job. He indicated that crimes against women and children will not be tolerated and that perpetrators thereof will be dealt with harshly.

THE MAIL Pg 5 SAPS (New) Pbs 20/7/17



Indefinite strike for 10111 call centre workers

TNA 2010712017 Pg 1 SAPS Neg National

CALLYN MARKS AND
NOKUBONGA HLATSHWAYO

SOUTH Africans wanting to report emergencies will have to wait for long periods with 10111 call centre workers embarking on an indefinite strike.

The 10111 workers embarked on a nationwide strike yesterday after police management failed to meet their demands. At least 22 centres will be affected countrywide during the national strike. Emergency call centre operators according to the South African Policing Forum earn less than other government call centres.

They held a protest outside 10111 call centre headquarters at Corporate Park North in Midrand, chanting songs and carrying placards urging Minister of Police Fikile Mbalula to intervene.

South African Policing Union national negotiator Ali Tlou said they will be shutting down emergency centres because their members were promised they would be upgraded from level five to seven four years ago.

"We have been engaging the department of public services and administration since 2013 about this matter. Riah Phiyega who was (national police) commissioner then, also created the expectation that she would promote them. But a benchmark study needed to be conducted first," Tlou said. A protesting 10111 operator, Johanna Ndlovu, 54, said they have an overwhelming amount

of work as they handle calls from all over Gauteng. She had been working for Gauteng 10111 in Midrand for nine years.

"Working 23 years for the SAPS, no promotion and no benefits, we want the minister of police to come and experience what we are experiencing here. What we are doing is not to just please people outside, he needs to come and check our work properly maybe he can understand why we are doing this," Ndlovu said.

Tlou said that an incident occurred on Tuesday night where a senior police official allegedly abused her powers by attacking an employee who needed to go to the hospital. A case has been opened with the police. "If it is indeed true that the employee was attacked what should happen is the member needs to be suspended because this is common assault," he said.

Police spokesperson Sally de Beer said that uniformed members had been brought in to man the phones and there were no disruptions to the service.

"Operations continue to run smoothly across all provinces despite the strike. Our call centres have not been disrupted, the situation is being monitored and all contingency plans are in place," De Beer said. She said there were fewer than 1000 employees who were on strike.

The New Age yesterday dialled 10111 and the reporter had to drop the call without a response after a five-minute wait.

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THE STAR 20107117-P3 NATIONAL-NEGATIVE

SAPS hotline agents on strike over salaries

GOITSEMANG TLHABYE

EVEN though the automatic recorded voice for the 10111 number says an operator will "attend to your call shortly", that will not be any time soon as emergency call centre operators working for the nationwide helpline officially downed tools yesterday.

They claimed they had been denied salary increases for four years.

The general secretary for the South African Policing Union (Sapu), Oscar Skommere, said

the workers were determined to fight the "cruelty and injustice" being meted out to them by the SAPS on all fronts.

Skommere said the workers had taken the decision to down tools even though arbitration processes regarding their salaries were still under way.

"The workers have been waiting for four years for the employer to honour the recommendations of the task team set up by former national police commissioner General Riah Phiyega in 2013," Skommere said.

The task team set up by Phiyega conducted benchmarking against Home Affairs, Sassa, Sars, Crimestop and the Presidential hotline call centres.

In its findings, it recommended that workers be upgraded to salary level seven to earn R226 211 per annum.

However, the recommendations were not implemented as the former acting commissioner, General Khomotso Phahlane, announced that the workers would be converted into an essential service.

The Police and Prisons Civil Rights Union (Popcru), however, cautioned its members not to take part in the strike.

Richard Mamabolo, Popcru spokesperson, said the organisation had advised its members not to take part in any strike action taken by other unions as they felt they had taken a populist and covert stance.

"Their stance is solely aimed at creating a false impression that they have numbers and can take the employer head-on," said Mamabolo.

Argument sparked murder, suspect in court

THE MAIL Pg 7 SAPS (NW) POS 20/7/17
Mahikeng Mail- Lethabong- A 35-year-old suspect was expected to appear in the Bafokeng Magistrate's Court in Tlhabane this past Tuesday on charges of murder, kidnapping and rape.

The suspect's court appearance emanated from an incident in which he allegedly killed a man and raped a woman in the early hours of Sunday, July 16, after leaving a local tavern. He was said to have been accompanied by his friend and two females to go to one of the females' places on Saturday, July 15. It is alleged that upon arrival at one of the woman's place at Skierlik informal settlement, Lethabong, an argument ensued between the suspect and one of his friends. The suspect allegedly stabbed his friend several times with a knife, then dragged him outside the yard. According to the information at hand, the suspect allegedly went inside the house where he forcefully took one of the women to his house and raped her before fleeing the area.

Police and the community searched for him without success, while members of the community threatened to burn down his house. He handed himself over to the police on Sunday evening.

TNA SAPS (NW) Pg 1 20/07/2017 Neg Murder accused escapes cells

TNA REPORTER

POLICE in Tlhabane, Rustenburg, have launched a manhunt after a man escaped from holding cells at the Bafokeng Magistrate's Court.

Buti Solomon Phege, 35, was due to face murder, kidnapping and rape charges.

It is not clear how he managed to get out and make good of his escape. Police are investigating.

North West police spokesperson Lt-Col Pelonomi Makau said: "Police are investigating a case of escape from lawful custody and this includes circumstances that could have led to the escape.

"Drastic steps will be taken should it be found that there was negligence on the part of the response authorities."

Phege was supposed to be charged

for killing a man and raping a woman in the early hours of Sunday in Lethabong, near Rustenburg.

"It is alleged that the suspect left a local tavern accompanied by his friend and two females to go to one of the females' place on Saturday.

"Upon arrival at one of the woman's place at Skierlik informal settlement in Lethabong, an argument ensued between the suspect and one of his friends. The suspect allegedly stabbed his friend several times with a knife, then dragged him outside the yard," Makau said.

It is further alleged that the man went inside the house where he forcefully took one of the women to his house where he raped her before fleeing the area.

"Police and the community searched for him without a success. - 701275

The Mail 20/07/17 Pg 11 MWSAB
Armed business robbery in Mahikeng Meeg

MAHIKENG MAIL-MAHIKENG: In Mahikeng shop No 33 in South Street was recently robbed by three men with firearms while the complainant was busy selling drinks to customers. The robbers forced them to kneel down and started beating them up while others were searching the victims.

They took an amount of R8 700 and twelve phones valued at R6000. The suspects are unknown to the complainant and the clients.

Investigations are still underway.

Nyaope drug bust by street patrollers

MAHIKENG MAIL-MAHIKENG: Street Patrollers on July 13 nabbed a suspect with 24 wrapped nyaope parcels. The patrollers allegedly noticed the suspect holding a transparent plastic which contained the nyaope wraps whilst trying to conceal them in his pants. The Mail Pg 9 20/07/17 MWSAB

One of the patrollers took it upon himself to search the suspect and then found this plastic.

When asked about the plastic, the suspect confessed immediately that it was drugs called nyaope. POS

The patroller then informed the suspect that he was arresting him under section 42 of the Criminal Procedure Act and took him to the police station. The street value of the drugs is about R960, sold at R40 each. The suspect was later warned according to the constitutional rights before being placed in custody without any visible injury.

TNA Hawks 20/07/2017 Pj1 POS

Mantsopa fraud results pending

KAMOGELO SEEKOEI

INVESTIGATION results into fraud allegations against five Mantsopa municipal employees who are said to have defrauded the municipality of R1m are still pending.

In April, the Hawks were requested

to investigate the matter.

Former municipal manager Selby Selepe said the municipality had discovered that two officials had created ghost workers.

"We have informed the police and are awaiting more information."

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