



Several firearm busts in Rustenburg

Rustenburg – As part of reducing trio- and other serious crimes through the implementation of the Cluster Operational Coordination (COC) concept, the Rustenburg Cluster task team seized nine illegal firearms with ammunition and arrested nine suspects over the weekend.

"The firearms and ammunition were seized at various places within the cluster, including Phokeng, Boitekong, Koster, Tlhabane and Marikana," captain Elsabé Augoustides, police spokesperson, said.

In one of the incidents in Rustenburg on Saturday, 1 July, the Police followed a suspicious vehicle (following a tip-off from the community) and a chase ensued. One suspect was arrested in the vicinity of Woodridge Estate, Waterfall East. It was during the arrest

that two firearms and 19 rounds of ammunition were discovered inside his bag.

In another incident on Thursday, 20 July, the Cluster Task Team members arrested a suspect for the illegal possession of a firearm at the Bafokeng Rasimone North Platinum Mine. That was after the police found a .357 Magnum revolver with three rounds of ammunition inside his locker.

Later the same day, a suspect was arrested in Seraleng, Boitekong for the possession of a firearm and dagga.

On Wednesday, 26 July, two suspects were nabbed in Tlhabane for the possession of suspected stolen property and the illegal possession of a 9mm pistol. The suspects were linked with a spate of robberies in and around Hartbeespoortdam, Rustenburg and Thabazimbi.

The other suspects were individually arrested in Marikana, Lenatong in Phokeng, and Sondela

in Boitekong after being found in possession of firearms and ammunition between Thursday, 27 and Monday, 31 July.

The Rustenburg cluster commander, major general Arthur Adams applauded all members within the cluster for their commitment that resulted in the arrest of the suspects and seizing of the firearms that are used to perpetrate trio- and other serious crimes.



21 arrests in Rustenburg and surrounds

Rustenburg – As part of the roll out to all provinces, the deputy minister of Police, Bongani Mkongi, officially handed over the Mount Road Cluster Operational Command Centre (OCC) in Port Elizabeth to the Eastern Cape provincial commissioner on Monday, 24 July.

The launching of a Cluster OCC concept is planned to take place in Rustenburg as well. The OCC will be established to ensure clamping down on trio-crime that includes car and truck hijackings, house and business robberies as well as to win the trust of the community.

The OCC will amongst others, be responsible to initiate, plan and monitor crime prevention and combating operations within the cluster. This will sustain operations and crime combating initiatives with the aim of reducing crime and restoring trust in the police.

"Since June 2017 to date, 21 suspects have been arrested by the Cluster Task Team on charges ranging from theft out of motor vehicles to hijacking, burglary, residential and business robberies. During investigations, the following suspects were identified and linked with various cases," said captain Elsabe Augoustides, police spokesperson on 27 July. More arrests are imminent.

Mpumelelo Mojewa (28): Two

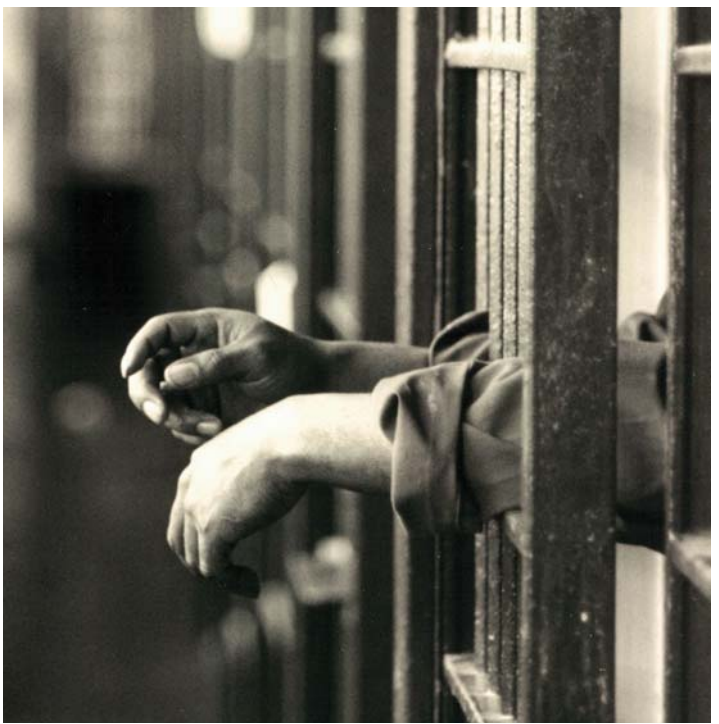
cases, including theft from motor vehicles and business robberies committed in Sun City and Phokeng in April 2017.

Alberto Gaba (42): Five cases, including house robbery, theft, and theft of and out of motor vehicles, and burglaries committed in Rustenburg in November 2006, January and December 2008, February 2012 and January 2015.

Ben Tsuwe Marope (43): Four cases, including two cases of theft out of motor vehicles, and another two of residential burglary during March, May, August and December 2015.

Fabiano Khumo (27): Three cases of house robbery and rape and residential burglary committed in July 2012 and November 2016 in Mogwase.

The Rustenburg cluster commander, major general Arthur Adams expressed his satisfaction about the successes achieved through coordinated initiatives in accordance with the aim of the concept. He commended members for their commitment and urged them to continue to strive for service excellence and enhancing the Back-to-Basics concept to ensure a safer tomorrow. He further made an appeal to members of the community to come forward with any information that may lead to arrest of trio crime suspects.



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SAPS MISSING



PINK LADIES: Karen Patricia Peach (53) was last seen in old Main road Bothahills, Hillcrest KZN in December 2016. It is unknown what she was wearing. She allegedly left in a slated grey Ford Focus REG: BG16JRGP. If you have any information, please contact SAPS Hillcrest WO Dlamini on 031 765 9113

WANTED



SAPS: The suspect is a male between 23 and 34 years old. He is slender, has short brown hair and a neatly trimmed beard. The suspect was wearing black frame glasses, he speaks Afrikaans. The suspect was driving a champagne coloured Ford Figo with NW number plates. The suspect is wanted by the SAPS on a case of Indecent Assault. Please contact the investigating officer in this case, Sgt Batantse of Potchefstroom FCS on 018-293 9203.

MISSING



PINK LADIES: Mohammed Khan (28) was last seen on 21 July 2017 at 22h00. He was wearing a blue and black vertical striped long sleeve t-shirt and red puma tekkies. He is driving a silver Opel Astra hatch back 2010. Reg HWY 940 MP. If you have any information please contact SAPS Ermelo W/O Msibini on 017 819 7803

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