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# Massive Manhunt

A manhunt is underway after one of the suspects who attacked Mr. KP van der Walt of Koster was arrested. It is said that it is only a matter of time before the arrest of the other six suspects will take place.

After a high-speed chase and exchange of fire that unravelled like a Hollywood-style script, the seven farm attackers left the bakkie that they stole and fled into the veldt. Deon Olivier of Reivilo Services Rustenburg, once again proved that teamwork between local farming forums and the SAPS is the way to go to win the war on farm attacks.

The number of farm attacks and murders has increased at an alarming rate, especially in the North West. The murders have led to demands from some quarters for the government to declare farm attacks a priority crime. "In the past, farm attacks appeared to come in bursts, with these periods often lasting longer than the occasions in which there were no farm murders," Christian Democratic Party (CDP) spokesman Theunis Botha said in a statement.

Mr KP van der Walt was attacked on Sunday, May 15 2011, on the same day when farmer Ferenc Nagy, 71, owner of Wimpy fast-food at Koster, was tortured with electric prods and assaulted with his wife, Klein, 67-year-old, by six armed men who tied them up and also deeply humiliated the elderly couple.

Mr Van der Walt, a chicken farmer, was attacked when he and his wife returned home from church on Sunday. The

local farming community used two-way radios to report and track down the offenders. The registration number, make and model of the bakkie in pursuit (Nissan 1400) were on the air within minutes.

Whilst some members of a local farming forum was on hot pursuit from the Koster direction, Deon Olivier, his son and his nephew followed suit from the Rustenburg direction. After recognising the number plate, Mr. Olivier made a U-Turn and pursued the suspects, eventually being able to block them close to the N4/ Koster road T-junction. In a close call fire was returned after the farm attackers fired shots at the Olivier's.

The seven occupants of the bakkie (three in the front and 4 at the back) fled the scene on foot. When the suspects were blocked at the N4 junction, a distress call was made to the control room of the Rustenburg SAPS. "It was like talking to a much laid back census data collector," Mr. Olivier said. He quickly realised that he was barking up the wrong tree and contacted another division of the SAPS. The response was unbelievable! Within less than 10 minutes, 2 SAPS vans of Koster, 3 of Rustenburg and another 3 Flying squad cars was on the scene. Within minutes the SAPS organised teamwork with local interested parties.

Two private helicopters and a light aircraft were used in the search of the criminals. With one in custody, the arrest of the remaining six is only a matter of time...

## Man killed by Police or NOT?

**Klerksdorp** – A man was found dead in a police holding cell in Klerksdorp, on Monday morning, 16 May 2011, according to National Union of Metalworkers (Numsa). The Police have confirmed this. In reaction to this, spokesperson Joe Montiisetse (Numsa) said, "We are disgusted by the death of our comrade, Pullman Dlamini". According to Montiisetse, Dlamini was "allegedly beaten up by the police" for "inadvertently injuring a policeman's foot", on the previous day.

This was strongly opposed by Brigadier Thulani Ngubane, Provincial Head: Corporate Communication (Spokesperson) North West: South African Police.

Dlamini was allegedly pulled over by the Police for negligent driving in the Kanana Township when he [accidentally] injured an officer when he pulled over. It is also alleged that Dlamini was under the influence of alcohol.

According to Brigadier Ngubane, the South African Police finds it disturbing to be accused by Numsa of having killed the deceased Mr. Dlamini – despite indication that post-mortem results are not yet released.

Ngubane reiterated that, "Any person remains innocent until proven guilty by a credible court of law", and further added that, "We will wait for the scientific report done by the specialists on the cause of death of Dlamini, before any accusations will be tolerated."

Furthermore, a "formal apology is required, OR strict legal action must be taken against the alleged perpetrator in this regard".

The North West SAPS Provincial Commissioner Lieutenant General Zukiswa Mbombo conveyed condolences to the bereaved Dlamini family and assured them that strict measures will be taken against anyone who might have taken part in the death of Mr. Dlamini.

Any person who has any information on this case should contact the ICD (Independent Complaints Directorate) to give their statements.

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