



80-YEAR OLD MAN ACCUSED OF RAPING MINOR

Brits – An 80-year old man is appearing before the Brits Magistrates' Court for allegedly raping a 7-year old girl. The man made his first appearance on Monday 17 February, two days after he was apprehended by the police over the allegations. The man was allegedly caught in the act of raping the girl in the Geluk farming area, located on the outskirts of Brits. It is the state's case that the suspect accompanied the girl, who is a grandchild of his girlfriend, to the shops on Saturday 15 February. After noticing that the two were taking too

long to return, the girl's mother started looking for them. She became worried after failing to locate them. It was during another attempt that the mother found the two behind a thick shrubbery area. "After noticing that the child was half naked, the mother immediately screamed for help and police were alerted. The suspect was immediately arrested and charged with rape," police spokesperson captain Sam Tselanyane said.



TWO SUSPECTED FARM ATTACKERS CAUGHT

Wolmaranstad – Wolmaransstad police arrested two suspects linked to a house robbery that occurred on a farm situated on the border of Wolmaransstad and Schweizer-Reneke. On Sunday 23 February at about 14:00, two suspects attacked a 60-year old farm worker with a wheel spanner outside a farmhouse before tying him up.

The suspects then proceeded to the farmhouse where they found a 92-year old farm owner and demanded money and firearms. The owner was also tied up, while the house was ransacked. Meanwhile, the farmworker managed to untie himself and rushed to a neighbouring farm to seek help.

All farmers in the area were also alerted and both suspects were tracked down and caught in Glaudina, about 6km from the crime scene. The suspects were found in possession of a shotgun, meat,

cellular phone, luggage bag as well as an undisclosed amount of cash, believed to have been taken during the house robbery on the farm. According to police spokesperson captain Sam Tselanyane, the two suspects, were in the vicinity of the farm since early in the morning, pretending to be asking for water. The two suspects aged 19 and 26 were arrested and detained and appeared before the Wolmaransstad Magistrates' Court on Tuesday 25 February. They were charged with house robbery, possession of an unlicensed firearm and possession of suspected stolen property. The North West provincial commissioner, lieutenant general Sello Kwenia, lauded members of the farm watch for their vigilance and determination in assisting the police to fight crime in the farming community. He urged members of the community to continue reporting illegal activities and said the police will not hesitate to act in ensuring that perpetrators are brought to book.

CIT HEIST: 12 ARRESTED

Tlhabane/Rustenburg – Twelve suspects linked to a cash-in-transit (CIT) robbery which occurred in Tlhabane on Wednesday 26 February were arrested on the same day. During the arrest, police also recovered four firearms, ammunition, cash as well as six vehicles believed to have been stolen and used by the suspects to commit their crimes. Investigations suggest the suspects were behind the robbery of three security guards who had just collected money from a supermarket at the Zinniville Shopping Complex. Said police spokesperson colonel Brenda Muridili: "Shots were fired during the robbery, but no one was injured. The suspects fled the scene in two vehicles, a Mercedes Benz and a Toyota Etios". Evidence gathered by police investigators led them to a house located in Bokamoso. Nine suspects were arrested at that house while three illegal firearms, ammunition and four vehicles believed to have been stolen as well as money robbed from the security guards were also seized

by the police. An additional three suspects were also arrested at a house in Rustenburg North during a police raid. An illegal rifle, ammunition as well as two vehicles believed to have been stolen were recovered at that house. All 12 suspects, who have been positively linked to the robbery which occurred in Zinniville, are facing the following charges: robbery with aggravating circumstances, possession of illegal firearms and ammunition, possession of suspected stolen motor vehicles and possession of suspected stolen cash. The Hawks are carrying out further investigations into the case. National commissioner of police general Khehla Sitole said law enforcement agents will continue working around the clock to bring criminals to book and reduce incidents of CIT robberies in Rustenburg and the country. **If you have any information about CIT robberies in your area, you are requested to contact SAPS on Crime Stop number 0860010111.**

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