



# RBPLAT OPENS A 200-BED FIELD HOSPITAL IN RUSTENBURG

Rustenburg – Royal Bafokeng Platinum (RBPlat) together with the North West Provincial Department of Health is proud to announce the official opening of a 200-bed Royal Bafokeng Platinum Field Hospital in Rustenburg, at a cost of approximately R10million, to support government's already overburdened resources in the fight against COVID-19.

Working with the North West Provincial Department of Health and their Bojanala District office, RBPlat converted its unused Maseve Mine, South Shaft change house, into a 200-bed field hospital to provide initial COVID-19 medical treatment to its employees and communities.

The 2,940m<sup>2</sup> treatment facility includes five wards, each with separate beds. Each bed has its own

television and personal lockable locker to store patient valuables and is individually screened off from other patient's beds for privacy. Sani-disc ultraviolet lights were installed in all the wards, killing any airborne diseases. The wards also have 108 Caribbean 2,000w infrared heaters.

The facility is well-ventilated and can cater for mild to moderate COVID-19 positive cases, supported with all the medical facilities and healthcare professionals as required.

Speaking at the official opening, RBPlat chief executive officer (CEO) Steve Phiri said: "The global COVID-19 pandemic and the steadily increasing rise in positive cases in South Africa are a cause for concern and have encouraged us to identify projects that can offer support to our employees, our communities and the government. We have already implemented several projects to support the needy and vulnerable in our community, as well as sourced quarantine and isolation facilities at Sundown Ranch for our employees and the community. We are proud to hand over this COVID-19 field hospital to the North West Provincial Department of Health, and we do this as part of our collective responsibility to make a real difference in our communities during this difficult time."

RBPlat press release extracts, 1 June 2020



Each bed has its own television and personal lockable locker.

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## R1.2M CHROME BUST

**Mogwase** – A 29-year old man suspected of illegal mining activities was arrested in Witrantjie village on Thursday 2 July.

The man, who had previously been warned by the Department of Mineral Resources (DMR) to stop conducting mining activities without a license, was caught in possession of chrome worth approximately R1.2 million when police descended on a farm in Witrantjie.

"A team comprising police and DMR officers went to the site where illegal chrome mining allegedly takes place. On their arrival at the site, the team found the suspect with a stockpile of chrome weighing 136 tonnes," police spokesperson Katlego Mogale said. The suspect appeared before the Mogwase Magistrates' Court on Monday 6 July 2020 and was charged with contravening the National Environmental Management Act as well as the Minerals and Petroleum Resources Development Act. Investigations continue.

## MURDER SUSPECT FOUND WITH DECEASED'S BANK CARDS

**Mogwase** – A man accused of allegedly strangling a teacher to death has been arrested after police found him in possession of the deceased's bank cards.

Akanyang Rakodi was remanded in custody when he appeared before the Mogwase Magistrates' Court on Monday 6 July. The 40-year old man, who stands accused of killing 25-year old Khumontle Mokgosi, will make his next court appearance on Tuesday 14 July. Mokgosi's body was found at her home in Magong village by neighbours and members of the school governing body (SGB) who searched for her. This was after the teacher had failed to report for duty. Her hands and feet were tied up and initial investigations by the police suggested that the victim was strangled to death.

Police spokesperson brigadier Sabata Mokgwabone

said: "The long arm of the law caught up with the suspect on Friday 3 July at Goo-Mokgatle Section in Dinokana village outside Zeerust. He was arrested during a crime intelligence-driven operation by a multidisciplinary team comprising Bojanala District and Zeerust Task Teams as well as provincial traffic. During the arrest, the suspect was found in possession of the deceased's bank cards as well as recently bought goods such as clothes, a car battery and liquor. Preliminary investigations revealed that Mokgosi's bank card was used to withdraw cash from ATMs in Northam and Zeerust." Two cellphones belonging to the victim were recovered by the police from the suspect.

Provincial commissioner of North West lieutenant general Sello Kwna commended investigators and all those involved in the arrest for a job well done.

## 9 FARM ATTACKS (5 DEATHS) 1 - 8 JULY

South Africa – While the national focus is on COVID-19, gender-based violence and children returning to school – other crimes such as farm attacks and murders get less attention. In Brits alone, two farm attacks occurred in a matter of hours. In the first incident a father, his two children and a family member were attacked on their smallholding Kareepoort on the evening of Friday 3 July. The four attackers, two armed with pistols and one armed with a rifle burst through the door and tied up the victims while they ransacked the house. The father and son were assaulted. Unfortunately, the family dog was shot and killed during the attack. The suspects fled the scene with various electrical items and cellphones. One of the children managed to escape and ran to go and get help.

According to police spokesperson colonel Adele Myburgh, a case of house robbery is being investigated.

In the second attack (not later than 2 hours), a farm worker was held at gunpoint in her house on the farm Kleinfontein by four men. The victim was robbed, and the suspects fled the scene with a cellphone and cash. According to police spokesperson lieutenant colonel Amanda Funani, a case of house robbery is being investigated.

The community was outraged and gathered in masses to search for the suspects. They managed to catch one of the attackers and he was subsequently arrested. Brits have been hit hard by an increase in attacks as of late. *Platinum Weekly* reported on 3 July about another couple who was attacked on their plot Roodekopjes near Brits. On 27 June farm workers on the farm Klipkop near Brits were also attacked by a group of men.

### Farm attacks in the rest of the country, 1 – 8 July

- Colenso, KwaZulu-Natal – A man was assaulted with a firearm by three attackers on his farm in the Colenso area on 30 June.
- Cullinan, Gauteng – A 22-year old farmworker was shot dead after he and his co-workers were attacked on the farm in the De Wagensdrift area on 1 July.
- Zastron, Freeestate – An elderly woman was seriously injured after she was attacked and kidnapped on her farm on 3 July.
- Lanseria, Gauteng – A man was shot during an attack on him and his wife on their plot on 3 July.
- Nuy-vallei, Western Cape – A famous singer and songwriter was shot dead during an attack on his farm on 3 July.
- Weenen, KwaZulu-Natal – A 26-year old, pregnant mother of two's throat was slit when they were attacked on their farm on 4 July.
- Grootvlei, Gauteng – A woman was killed, and her husband seriously injured during an attack on 5 July.

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