



BOTSWANA

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Class of 2021 in Pass Out Parade

MANDATE

The mandate of BPS is to ensure the safety and security of the peoples of Botswana. The organisation is established by an act of parliament under the Botswana Police Act, Cap 21:01, section 6. The Act outlines the mandate of the BPS as follows,

“The Service shall be employed in and throughout Botswana to protect life and property, prevent and detect crime, repress internal disturbances, maintain security and public tranquillity, apprehend offenders, bring offenders to justice, duly enforce all written laws with which it is directly charged and generally maintain the peace”.

**‘A law enforcement
Agency of Repute’**



-  BOTHO
-  EXCELLENCE
-  INTEGRITY
-  TEAM WORK

**‘To provide a
Professional
Policing Service,
in partnership
with the
Community’**



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In Partnership With You

Hats Off to you Coppers and Compliments of the New Year



Superintendent Selinah Omphile
Assistant Public Relations Officer

Welcome to 2022. At the Police Magazine, we wish you a blissful and prosperous new year. We are hopeful that this is the year in which COVID-19 will finally disappear from our lives and that life would normalise again. We are therefore, enthusiastic to start the year on a high note with lively expectations.

We trust that the year will definitely be coloured with what makes life, life; a roller coast of ups and downs, bright and dark colours, strengths and weaknesses, achievements and failures.

What is more cognisant is that we are given yet another opportunity to be the stewardess of the ship of our lives and it is where and how we steer it that will see us as victors or failures of our resolutions for the year 2022.

Looking at the just ended year of 2021 we would like to take this opportunity to commend our officers for enduring the COVID-19 challenges by providing service with the same zeal throughout the period. We acknowledge that this was a testing time for all of us as nobody was spared from this monstrous pandemic. Sometimes our offices operated with skeletal staff as some of us were on quarantine or isolation. Some of us contracted the disease and became sick but we endured.

All of us were affected one way or the other as we lost members

of our families, our friends, our neighbours and our colleagues, yet as police officers we carried on the torch for our nation.

We have learnt the true meaning of the expression 'Front liners' as we lived and experienced it first-hand. Despite the unfavourable conditions of a highly possible infection, we worked for the justice of all, bringing perpetrators to book, learning on our feet the new COVID-19 Protocols, which we implemented as instantaneously as they were passed.

We thank our officers for their individual as well as their collective commitment in ensuring that BPS remained resolute in its mandate.

We have had a number of recognisable events that occurred in the past year including, the appointment of two new Deputy Commissioners, the establishment of the Gender and Child Protection Branch as well as the establishment of the second Child Friendly Service Centre in Francistown, the virtual handing over of the SARPCCO Chairmanship by our Commissioner which culminated in the physical event that was held this January on our grounds.

To you Coppers! Hats off!!!

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Class of 2021 in Pass Out Parade



Hon. Thomas Kagiso Mmusi
Minister of Defence, Justice & Security

By CST Bantshwanetse Chetiso

Policing career is a calling that requires selflessness, dedication, resilience and commitment from an individual police officer.

A police officer has to be well equipped with the necessary knowledge of law, must be physically and mentally fit, with

the necessary survival skills to manoeuvre challenges when duty calls.

Botswana Police College is mandated to amongst others to train police officers from the recruitment stage. The recruits are trained to become police officers who are able to execute their policing duties

effectively. They are prepared to face any challenging environment they may encounter during the execution of their duties.

During training, recruits do subjects related to law and police duties amongst others in the curriculum; perform physical training that include survival and defence tactics, drill movements and many others.

In December 2021, the College graduated 339 battle-ready recruit constables to join thousands other officers in the war against crime. The officers holding qualifications in various disciplines passed out in a spectacular event that was marked by ululations.

The sharp commands of the instructors could be heard from afar as the recruits performed their drill moves with precision. The gratifying drill movements exhibited teamwork, which is one of the key components of training.

The graduates, both male and female could be barely distinguished, with bald heads, slim bodies and dark complexion emanating from the robust training they went through.

"I trust that you are men and women eager to serve the nation with zeal"





Officers displaying one of the drill moves.



Mr Keabetswe Makgophe
Commissioner of Police



Recruits pass-out parade taking an oath of allegiance.

When delivering a keynote address, the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security, Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi said governance, peace, and security of the nation is a key theme for National Development under Vision 2036. He said the issues of public security and rule of law remain top priority in the delivery of the government agenda.

The Minister said he was impressed by the level of commitment, resilience, and achievements made by the BPS over the years. He thanked the BPS management for their transformational and visionary leadership skills that guaranteed

progressive growth and success of the organisation.

"Policing environment is increasingly becoming more complex and highly dynamic. While technological advancement is a welcome development, it has ushered in unintended consequences such as the shifting of crime into cyber space."

He said the rapid changes in the policing landscape undoubtedly call for a highly responsive Police Service with adequately trained and committed officers who are able to adapt and respond to the challenging demands.

For his part, the Commissioner of Police, Mr Keabetswe Makgophe urged the graduates to deliver what they have acquired with excellence and adhere to the organisation's guiding principles of Botho, Excellence, Integrity and Teamwork. He said guiding principles demonstrate what the organisation is and what it exists for.

"I trust that you are men and women eager to service the nation with zeal. I encourage you to go out there and execute police duties to the best of your ability."



General John Khehla Sitole, SARPCCO Chairperson



Mr Keabetswe Makgophe, Commissioner of Police (BPS)

SARPCCO Chairperson on a Monitoring Mission

By ASP Selebatso Mooketsi

The Chairperson of the Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO) who is also the National Commissioner of South African Police Service (SAPS), General John Khehla Sitole hailed cooperation that exists between Botswana Police Service (BPS) and South African Police Service (SAPS) in terms of policing.

General Sitole made these remarks at the official opening of a two-day meeting meant to monitor the implementation of SARPCCO resolutions in Gaborone, Botswana recently.

The resolutions were reached at the 26th Chiefs of Police Sub-Committee of the Inter-State, Defence and Security Annual General Meeting that was held on the 16th of June 2021 in Gaborone, Botswana. Some of the resolutions were to enhance operational efficiency on; preventing and combating illicit firearms, ammunition and other related materials in the region, prevent

and combat transnational organised crime as well as fighting cybercrime in the SADC region. The development of SARPCCO Women's Network Strategic Plan 2021-2025 was also endorsed at the meeting.

The Chairperson said that transnational organised crime continues to threaten regional peace and security thus calling countries to strengthen their working relations by devising new crime reduction strategies amongst others.

He also added that it remains critical for regional security structures to continuously collaborate, formulate, implement and review as necessary joint crime counter strategies that would address emerging regional security challenges.

Gen. Sitole who attained the SARPCCO chairmanship virtually in June last year, said the aim of the SARPCCO Chiefs of Police is to turn the organisation into a regional policing model of the world. He urged all SARPCCO member states to rise

to the occasion and become a best practice model in which the whole world can begin to learn from.

During his monitoring expedition, the Chairperson paid a courtesy call on the Minister of Defence, Justice and Security, Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi, toured the INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) in Gaborone. He also appreciated the services rendered through the INTERPOL's secure global police communications network, I-24/7 at Tlokweng Border Gate.

SARPCCO is the primary force in Southern Africa formed in 1995 in Zimbabwe to amongst others; promote, strengthen and perpetuate collaboration and foster joint strategies for the management of all forms of crime in the region.

For his part, the Commissioner of Botswana Police Service, Mr Keabetswe Makgophe said Botswana and South Africa have a long standing cordial relationship demonstrated by the existence of Embassies in the two countries. He also stated that the constant collaboration through bilateral meetings, joint operations and intelligence sharing continues to contribute significantly towards fighting transnational organised crime in the region.

Mr Makgophe further said South African Police Service is instrumental in joint investigations and apprehension of offenders especially in crimes that involve the two countries.

He said Botswana Police Service continues to make breakthroughs especially in armed robberies where criminals are found to be foreign nationals who then skip borders after committing crime.



Some of the BPS delegates at the meeting.

SARPPCO Sword of Honour Changes Hands

By ASP Selebatso Mooketsi

The Commissioner of Botswana Police Service (BPS), Mr Keabetswe Makgophe officially handed over the SARPPCO chairmanship Sword of Honour to the National Commissioner of South African Police Service (SAPS), General John Khehla Sitole in Gaborone, Botswana recently.

When handing over the sword, the former chairperson of SARPPCO, Mr Keabetswe Makgophe said that it was important to physically hand over the baton to the South African Police Service National Commissioner.

He said that the sword was virtually handed over at the 26th Chiefs of Police Sub-Committee of the Inter-State, Defence and Security Annual General Meeting that was held on the 16th of June 2021 in Gaborone.

Mr Makgophe added that this owed to the COVID-19 pandemic that forced countries to impose restrictions as a way of avoiding the spread of the disease.

Botswana Police Commissioner steered the rotational ship of regional policing for a period of 12 months taking over from the Commissioner General of the Zimbabwe Republic Police, Tandabantu Godwin Matanga in August 2020.

During his tenure, he adapted the new philosophy of policing owing to the advent of COVID-19 pandemic which led to change of policing business.



Commissioner Makgophe handing over the Sword of Honour to General Sitole

Some of the successful joint operations conducted under the auspices of SARPPCO during his reign included; Operation OPSON X aimed at addressing fake

and substandard food and beverages, Operation Basadi geared towards addressing Gender Based Violence, Operation LIONFISH MIHARTI II targeting drug trafficking along air, land and maritime routes.

So was Operation AFYA II combating illicit goods and Operation Pangea XIV against counterfeit and illegally imported medicinal products.

In his acceptance speech, General Sitole said the sword symbolises standing of authority by Member States, protection of communities across the region and equally serving them. He also said the sword is a sign of future succession as it will pass from one generation of policing to another.

General Sitole pledged to serve the region with zeal during his tenure as chairperson of SARPPCO.



BPS Guard ready to present the Sword of Honour to the two Commissioners for handing over.



The house that was gifted to the Tukuae family by North Central Division.

The Spirit of Giving Lives on

By INSP Bonang Pule

The year 2021 ended on a very high note for the Tukuae family in Mabuo Village as they received a present in the form of a modern house that has changed their standard of living.

The good Samaritans happened to be police officers based at North Central Division in Palapye. For Ms Gobonyemang Tukuae, the biggest relief was that she and her family will have privacy and a roof over

their heads.

December 30, 2021 will never be erased in their memories as it is the day that the family received the two bedroomed gift by the North Central Division Headquarters based officers.

The house boasts of a sitting room, kitchen and a toilet with shower. In addition, the officers fenced the yard and bought the family groceries and other amenities.

Ms Tukuae and her family see the new house as a “miracle.” She could not believe it was hers until she was handed the keys and was eager to spend the first night.

When she reached the podium to speak, she thanked the Police for their spirit of giving back to the less privileged people in the society.

She considered herself most fortunate and a blessed citizen amongst others to receive such a high value present. Ms Tukuae added that the family now has a house that will protect them from the harsh weather conditions.

She further said when heavy rains come, she will not be worried because of the guaranteed protection and security. She added that in the past, rainy seasons



Mr Solomon Mantswe, Deputy Commissioner, Operations officiating at the event



SACP Christopher Mbulawa, Divisional Commander - North Central

made life unbearable as the thatched hut would leak and in the process soak their belongings.

The mother of five stated that she used to share her single hut with her children and grandchild, something she said was not comfortable.

The house was officially handed over to the beneficiary by the Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe.

In his remarks, Mr Mantswe said in addition to its core mandate of fighting crime, BPS also supports the advancement of national

development plans that strive to improve the lives of Batswana as espoused in the Vision 2036 goal of Achieving Prosperity for All.

Mr Mantswe said BPS is ready to give back to the community they serve, adding that they will not ignore the suffering of their valuable partners. He applauded North Central staff for helping the family, stating that they did not do that out of their plenty but because of their devotion to assisting the society.

"May God bless all the great minds and generous hands that contributed in many different ways towards the successful execution of this project. Your involvement has ensured the most deserving beneficiary was effortlessly identified amongst equally deserving citizens. In fact, this project would not have been possible without you. We thank you most graciously for the support," he said.

Turning to Gobonyemang he told her that her family was fortunate to be chosen amongst many less privileged.

"Ms Tukuae, this is your new home, keep it warm and habitable for your family comfort and dignity.

"This house is a family's treasure. It should be forever cherished and passed on from generation to generation. It should never be offered for sale."

Giving the project overview, Divisional Commander for North Central, Senior Assistant Commissioner Christopher Mbulawa, revealed that the house costed over P275 000.00.

"The project was made possible through voluntary contributions of personnel at North Central Headquarters."

The North Central Divisional Commander also thanked the village leadership, social welfare office and business community for their support in this endeavour.

He also in a special way thanked Mr Keoagile Rakole who volunteered his skill as a builder.



Ms Gobonyemang Tukuae, the house recipient



Mr Mantswe cutting the ribbon to mark the handing over of the house. Looking on, is Kgosi Ontiretse Godirileng of Mabuo Village (right), Hon. Leepetswe Lesedi, Member of Parliament for Serowe South (second left), SACP Mbulawa (left) and Ms Tukuae.



ACP Ditiro Mogatlaatswene
Deputy Director Administration - Police College



Some members of Class of 2021 at the event

Class of 2021 Gives Back to the Community

By S/I Kefilwe Bafana

The essence of giving is a selfless intention of sharing with others without expecting anything in return.

It is stated in the Bible, book of Leviticus chapter 25: verse 35 that if one of your brethren becomes poor, and falls into poverty among you, then you shall help him, like a stranger or a sojourner, that he may live with you.

This spirit of giving has become a norm for members of Botswana Police Service (BPS) to donate varied projects as a way of giving back to the community they serve.

Some of the projects undertaken to assist disadvantaged members of society include housing, clothing and donation of food hampers. The Police also assist co-workers who fell victim to various misfortunes.

Botswana Police College Trainee Class of 2021 made a mark by raising P70 000.00 which was used to purchase amongst others; chairs, toys and sanitary pads. The items were donated to the community in the periphery of the Institution including customary

courts and schools.

Giving an overview of the project, Deputy Director Administration, Assistant Commissioner Ditiro Mogatlaatswene stated that the project was initiated by trainees who then engaged management of the institution.

"The donation was made possible through voluntary contributions by trainees and some of the funds were raised through football tournaments."

Assistant Commissioner Mogatlaatswene further said the chairs were donated to customary courts in Kanye, Ramotswa, Mogobane, Otse, Nthantlhe, Magotlhwane, Kgomokasitwa, Lekgolobotlo and Ranaka villages.

He also mentioned that sanitary pads were handed over to 12 public schools while the newly established BPS Gender and Child Protection Branch received toys.

"Part of the donation was also used to put up an outdoor gym equipment next to Recruits Hostels to ease congestion

in the Academy gymnasium."

Speaking on behalf of the recipients, a teacher at Moeding College Ms Ruth Kolagano, began by leading with a popular gospel chorus Re a mo leboga, as she praised the Lord for guiding the officers in pursuing the noble gesture.

She encouraged the graduates to continue with the spirit of giving, noting that the donation will make an impact on the lives of the beneficiaries.



Ms Ruth Kolagano
Teacher - Moeding College



ACP Gontlafetse Segolodi, Deputy Director, Gender and Child Protection Branch, displaying toys donated to the Francistown Child-Friendly Service Centre.

Harness Strategic Partnerships - Deputy Commissioner Operations

By ASP Selebatso Mooketsi



Mr Solomon Mantswe, Deputy Commissioner, Operations addressing officers.

The Deputy Commissioner of Police, Operations, Mr Solomon Mantswe has said that a high performing organisation is determined by a workforce that is highly focused on desire to achieve outstanding results.

Mr Mantswe made the remarks when addressing police officers in Kang and Gantsi just days shy of Christmas Day. He pointed out that yielding desirable results does not come easy therefore, requires collaboration and innovation to produce work at the highest levels.

The Deputy Commissioner further urged the officers to innovate together within their different areas of operation in order to crack down crime syndicates that threaten peace of the inhabitants of this country.

He said cracking down of criminal groups could be achieved if police officers review crime prevention strategies regularly as well as resuscitating Cluster Policing programme so that they continue yielding positive results.

Mr Mantswe further encouraged the officers to develop more response teams and strengthening inter agency cooperation. He added that crime would steadily go down within their areas of responsibility if they engage with other stakeholders in fighting crime.

The Deputy Commissioner expressed appreciation at how police officers continue to deliver diligently in

apprehending offenders and bringing them to justice.

He implored them to raise their level of consciousness and never leave any stone unturned and investigate cases thoroughly for possible prosecution of the perpetrators.

Deputy Commissioner Mantswe also

extended his address to police officers in Tsabong where he urged them to harness strategic partnership that would aid the organisation to improve on its Gender Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response measures.

Mr Mantswe urged them to collaborate with stakeholders in their respective policing areas so that established measures yield results in curbing incidents of GBV. He said that GBV is a national concern and mostly women and children are victims in cases like rape and defilement.

Mr Mantswe further emphasised the need to constantly involve critical organisations that deal with children so that cases that involve young persons are given the attention they deserve.

The Deputy Commissioner urged the officers to educate parents and guardians of children on issues of GBV and encourage them to report any suspicious incidents of GBV, adding that by so doing perpetrators of such will be apprehended and brought to justice in time.

On a different note, Mr Mantswe encouraged the officers to get vaccinated for Coronavirus. He said that getting vaccinated does not only reduce the risk of COVID-19 spread and health complications in the work place, but also plays a critical role in operational efficiency.



Officers engaged, appreciated and shared ideas with Mr Mantswe during his visit.



Hon. Thomas Kagiso Mmusi (centre) addressing the delegation at the Ministry Headquarters

SARPCCO Chairperson Pays Courtesy Call on Honourable Minister Mmusi

By INSP Botlhale Kentshitsuwe

The Minister of Defence, Justice and Security Honourable Thomas Kagiso Mmusi has acknowledged bilateral ties between Botswana and South Africa as demonstrated by the existing collaborations across various sectors of the economy, including public security.

Minister Mmusi made the acknowledgement in Gaborone recently during a courtesy call by the Chairperson of Southern African Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organisation (SARPCCO), General John Khehla Sitole who is also the National Commissioner of South African Police Service (SAPS).

He said that Botswana Police Service (BPS) and SAPS continue to enjoy mutual benefits in terms of tackling emerging transnational organised crimes. He further stated that such crimes have the potential to affect the economies of the two countries. The Minister added that the cracking down of criminal syndicates operating across borders is critical in ensuring peace and security in the region.

Hon. Mmusi also noted with appreciation a robust security collaboration beyond the borders of the two countries as exhibited by the active participation in peacekeeping and conflict resolution missions in the SADC region and continent.

“As the Minister responsible for security matters, I commit to peace building efforts within and across our borders to the benefit of our communities.”

For his part, General Sitole praised the cordial relationship that exists between BPS and SAPS in terms of providing safety and security in the region. The Chairperson said that transnational organised crime continues to threaten regional peace and security. He therefore called on SARPCCO member states to intensify their crime reduction strategies in order to have a safe region that would be a benchmark model in policing circles.

Commissioner Sitole said that he was aware of how COVID-19 impacted economies of countries across the region. “One of the major focus of SARPCCO is to support and revive the economies of various countries by aligning members policing strategies to each other to create a conducive climate for economic growth as well as luring investors to the region.”

He also noted that the organisation supported countries affected by public disorder through stabilisation and facilitation of return to normal processes, citing Mozambique as an example. General Sitole said that they intend to mobilise countries to have high density

deployment in those countries that have unrest situations.

Earlier on, in his introductory remarks, the Commissioner of Botswana Police Service, Mr Keabetswe Makgophe appreciated the unwavering support BPS continues to receive from SAPS. He said BPS has made several breakthroughs in arresting criminals of various offences through the interventions of SAPS and INTERPOL, something that he said they should be commended for.

In her remarks, Acting Secretary for Safety and Security in the Ministry of Defence, Justice and Security, Ms Boikhutso Botlhale emphasised the importance of a police organisation in any country, adding that a resourced Police Service can effectively deliver on its mandate. Ms Botlhale said the visiting of SARPCCO Chairperson to Botswana is an indication that Police Services across appreciate the importance of collaborations in combating crime.

SARPCCO Chairperson was in Botswana to attend a two-day monitoring meeting for the implementation of SARPCCO resolutions that were reached on the 16th June 2021 in Gaborone, Botswana. He was accompanied by senior officials from SAPS and also a delegation from NCB Harare.

SARPCCO CHAIRPERSON'S VISIT IN PICTURES



General John Khehla Sitole (seated centre), Mr Keabetswe Makgophe (seated left) and Mr Ignatius Nangombe (seated right), BPS Deputy Commissioners Mr Busang C. Lesola (standing 2nd right) and Mr Solomon Mantswe (standing left), SAPS Deputy National Commissioner, Crime Detection, Lt Gen. Liziwe Evelyn Ntshinga (standing 2nd left) and Divisional Commander, Visible Policing and Operations, Lt Gen. Monashi Michael Mohlala



Part of the BPS Senior Management at the meeting



The delegation also visited the BPS/INTERPOL facilities in Gaborone



Part of the attendants at the event.

Crime Prevention in Full Swing

By INSP Oduetse Moadi &
CST Tshepang Boemo



Senior Superintendent Banneetse Keakile
Officer Commanding No.14 District



Kgosi Keorapetse Legabala
Selokolela



Professor Keitseope Nthomang
Lorolwana - Gasita Farmers Chairperson

In an expedition to combat stock theft in their policing area, Sejelo Police in Kanye hosted a crime prevention workshop in Selokolela under the theme, "Let's join hands and fight against stock theft."

The objective of the event was to sensitise farmers on the status of stock theft and encourage them to resuscitate Farmers Committees for formulation and implementation of relevant strategies to the area.

Speaking at the event, Professor Keitseope Nthomang who was the guest speaker and

Chairman of Lorolwane/Gasita Farmers Association urged farmers to desist from the tendency of leaving livestock in the open at night as this makes them easy targets.

On another issue, Professor Nthomang highlighted the importance of acquiring work permits for their employees in the case of hiring foreigners. "As an Association, we strongly condemn the hiring of foreign herdsmen without following the right procedures as this has the potential of contributing to cross boarder stock theft."

On general crime, Professor Nthomang

expressed concern about parents who turn a blind eye when their children accumulate stolen properties stating that it is important for children to be given a good foundation.

"Families are the building blocks of the society, if children are not reprimanded from a young age then we are a lost nation."

In his welcome remarks earlier on, Kgosi Keorapetse Legabala of Selokolela village said some farmers leave their livestock in the responsibility of herdsmen for a long time, advising that this can escalate stock theft. He also advised farmers



Attendants at the Ramotswa workshop



Supt Keoagile Tau
Ramotswa Station Commander

to follow the right procedures when buying and selling livestock as this helps in tracking and identifying the owner.

On the statistics, Officer Commanding No. 14 District, Senior Superintendent Banneetse Keakile said there was an increase in stock theft cases as they realised an increase of 22% in 2021 as compared to the previous year.

In her remarks, Senior Administration

Officer at Kanye Administration Authority, Mrs Keneilwe Seidisa said in the year 2021 they have received over 200 cattle at Gasita Matimela kraals but only 45 were claimed. She said this indicated that farmers care less about the whereabouts of their livestock.

Meanwhile, Ramotswa Police Station organised a business community workshop to warn participants on crime related to businesses that usually occur during the festive season.

Delivering a keynote address, Training Officer at Security Systems, Ms Alice Mwanza advised the business community to secure their property by installing security gadgets like alarms, CCTVs and many others.

She encouraged them to participate in business cluster committees which have proven to be effective in fighting crime. Ms Mwanza called on the business community to desist from keeping large sums of money at their businesses as this can attract criminals.

She advised them to utilise available security banking services to deposit their money from time to time.

When briefing the participants on crime situation, Station Commander for Ramotswa, Superintendent Keoagile Tau said they registered 30 cases of Store Breaking in 2021, marking an escalation of 10% in comparison to 2020.

The Station Commander said proximity of the village to the Capital city makes it vulnerable to advanced and sophisticated crime which calls for a multi-faceted approach by all stakeholders.



Ms Alice Mwanza
Security Systems Training Officer



Participants marching in solidarity to Selokela Kgotla, advancing crime prevention initiatives.



Kachikau Police officers posing for a photo

Retracing the Roots of Kachikau Police Station

By INSP Obusitse Puleng

Kachikau village is in the Chobe District and situated about 35 kilometers from Ngoma Border Post. The border post divides Botswana and Namibia. The people and wild animals here, co-exist as they are attracted to the ecosystem of the mighty Chobe River that flows through the region.

Police operations in the area dates back to the colonial era and were often moved back and forth between villages to avert situations such as flooding river plains, poor terrains, tsetse fly and human wildlife conflict. A case in point was the relocation of a police station between the villages of Kachikau and Kavimba.

Kgosi Mmualefe Mmualefe of Kachikau said, the first police post in Chobe enclave was built in the early 1950's at Mathabanelo, an area in the periphery of Kachikau. It comprised of four single roomed mud and grass thatched houses.

He stated that as a result of frequent flooding at Mathabanelo, the Police Post was moved to a high ground at Kachikau village.

Once again, a decision was taken to relocate the Post to a place called Lungara near Kavimba where a mini Police Station was built in 1969 and was occupied in 1970. This time, the move was influenced by lack of palatable water at Kachikau.

"There were unconfirmed reports which suggested that the Post was moved to Lungara, to provide security to a grave of one of the members of the London Missionary Society, who died after he was attacked by bees. We believed this to be true as the station was built close to the grave", said Kgosi.

Police Magazine caught up with retired Superintendent Balisi Ntamba to get chronicle of events as he took over the reign as Station Commander at Kavimba in 2001. Throughout the interview, he fondly recalled his experiences at Kavimba.



Superintendent Situme Budani
Kachikau Station Commander

"I remember that when I arrived at Kavimba there were eight police officers being myself as Station Commander, a sub Inspector, one sergeant and five constables," he disclosed.

He said the police station was located six kilometres away from the village of Kavimba making it difficult for members of the public to access police services.

He indicated that back then officers were faced with challenges such as unavailability of power supply, unpalatable water and poor communication system. At times officers had to travel 91 kilometers to Kasane to access some of the basic amenities.

Mr Ntamba also recalled the times when they would travel from Kavimba to Mabele and climb atop trees to make phone calls.

For electricity supply, the station relied on the generator to electrify the station and police houses.

The other challenge was that the area was infested with dangerous wild animals that passed by the station daily on their way to drinking spots in the Chobe River.

"My house was located near the

riverbank, which made it a frequent resting place for wild animals and on many occasions, I had to drive them away with the help of other officers for me to go to work and when coming back home," said Superintendent Ntamba.

Meanwhile, there were fewer criminal cases probably because police services were not easily accessible as the station was far from the village. For one to report a crime, they had to travel long distances by lifts, lest they fell prey to predators such as lions.

Before Superintendent Ntamba took over the station, it was commanded by officers of the rank of Inspector, making him the first Senior Officer to be Station Commander at Kavimba. He took over from Inspector Nkape Kealotswe.

Meanwhile, after the police had settled at Lungara, then came an issue of wildlife posing a threat to the community. It was decided that the station should be moved from the area, and it was taken back to Kachikau, where it currently stands.

After a period of over 30 years, the construction of a magnificent Police Station that stands majestically on the upper ground facing the village of Kachikau started in 2007.

A year later, police officers who were at Kavimba moved to the new building in Kachikau which was officially opened on 14th March 2009 by the then Botswana Defence Force Commander Lieutenant General Tebogo Masire.

He was succeeded by Superintendents; Museke Samasasa and the current Situme Budani who took over in 2016.

According to Superintendent Budani, his policing area covers five villages of Kachikau, Kavimba, Mabele, Satau and Parakarungu. Crime is relatively low in the area save for incidents of poaching, unlawful possession of dagga, defilement, isolated incidents



**Kgosi Mmualefe Mmualefe
Kachikau**

relating to assaults and thefts. These offences are committed by both local and foreign nationals.

The Station Commander said that to combat crime in their area, they engaged in public education to sensitise the public.

He said they also held school outreach programmes to educate children on the consequences of indulging in criminal activities and encouraged them to report any offences committed against them.

On issues of cross border crimes, Superintendent Budani said they have a Botswana/Namibia law enforcement committee, where they meet and draw plans on how best they can deal with crime in their areas. They then do annual plans, operations, roadblocks and kgotla meetings together in both countries interchangeably.

"This has yielded good results as criminals who cross the border are always taken back to their country of origin to answer for their criminal activities committed there without any hardships", said Mr Budani.



Retired Superintendent Balisi Ntamba



Graduation Time at Police College



Dr Helen Tumedisio, Director, Forensic Science Services



Dr Nicholas Pamment, Principal Lecturer, Criminology and Criminal Justice, University of Portsmouth



SACP Lesego Phonchi, Director, Botswana Police College

By ASP Thulaganyo Keokilwe

Pass-out parades and graduation ceremonies at the Botswana Police College are always a sight to behold and December 2021 was no different.

Following an elaborate and spectacular pass-out parade in the morning, the College staff and trainees switched things up a notch in the afternoon by exchanging their police caps for mortarboards. Donning gowns on top of their ceremonial attire for it was graduation time.

While the morning pass-out display is supposed to clue you into the amount of discipline, order, teamwork and tenacity drilled into the Recruit Constables during training, the graduation ceremony on the other hand is a culmination of academic

excellence at Botswana Police College.

In addition to rigorous physical training that turns them into police officers, trainees are also academically infused with law, criminology, police duties and other studies.

At the end of the 12 months of training, the trainee graduates are awarded the University of Portsmouth accredited Certificate of Professional Practice in Policing. This Certificate is awarded at the graduation ceremony.

The recent Class of 2021 ceremony went without a hitch despite being held virtually due to COVID-19 restrictions. The Class of 2021 boasted of prior graduates in Engineering, Computer Forensics,

Journalism, Sciences among others.

Officiating at the Graduation Ceremony, the Director of Forensic Science Services, Senior Assistant Commissioner Dr Helen Tumedisio told the graduates that the twelve months of training they underwent prepared them to be proficient police officers.

She added that it also prepared them to withstand the challenges that come with the difficult but utterly essential job of enforcing all written laws. Dr Tumedisio called graduates to execute their duties in accordance with the law and responsibility.

"You will be subjected to temptation by corrupt individuals and overall find yourselves in very difficult situations which





Some of the Police College Management at the graduation ceremony

will require you to apply yourselves within the realms of the law."

She urged graduates to live the values of Botho, Excellence, Integrity and Team Work. Furthermore, she encouraged them to take advantage of the available online learning platforms to further their studies so as to be well-rounded police officers.

She told the graduates that they were fortunate to train at a time when Botswana Police College has gone through a transformation from offering objective to

outcome-based learning that matches the complexity and diversity of crime in policing modern society. She stated that the College is working towards offering Diploma, Degree and Masters programmes as part of their transformation process.

In his remarks, the Principal Lecturer in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Portsmouth, Dr Nicholas Pamment, said that the University is delighted to be able to offer accreditation to Botswana Police College. He said that

the Certificate of Professional Practice in Policing accredited to Botswana Police Service is in line with BPS values. He pointed out that the University of Portsmouth is satisfied that the Certificate is delivered by highly professional and dedicated trainers at Botswana Police College.

He called on the graduates to apply their skills in the execution of their daily duties so as to remain practical and relevant.





PEOPLE SMUGGLING STING OPERATION:

KENYA-NETHERLANDS COOPERATION LANDS RENOWNED FUGITIVE IN JAIL

Kenyan Police have arrested a man wanted by INTERPOL for allegedly smuggling dozens of men, women and children to Europe.

Wanted by The Netherlands since 2017, 53-year-old John Habeta was taken into custody at Schiphol International airport in Amsterdam on 25 December after his arrest in Kenya.

Kenyan Police arrested John Habeta in Nairobi on 16 December as part of a sting operation coordinated between authorities in the Netherlands and Kenya with the support of INTERPOL's General Secretariat headquarters.

Acting on globally sourced INTERPOL intelligence leads, the INTERPOL National Central Bureau (NCB) in The Hague alerted the Kenyan NCB to the fugitive's presence in Nairobi on 10 December.

An INTERPOL Red Notice – or international fugitive alert – was published the same day for people smuggling and use of fake identity documents to carry out transcontinental smuggling operations, triggering the suspect's surveillance and arrest on the outskirts of the Kenyan capital.

The Dutch national remains in custody in The Netherlands until trial where, if convicted, he faces a sentence of up to eight years in prison.

Complex criminal networks facilitate the illegal passage of migrants across borders – for a price.

Using INTERPOL's secure global police communications network – I-24/7, INTERPOL coordinated global efforts to disrupt the network by enabling countries to share criminal intelligence and analysis about Habeta and how he organized transcontinental smuggling operations.

Habeta was allegedly involved in at least four different operations to smuggle groups of Eritrean nationals into Europe using routes from Asia.

INTERPOL's specialized unit on migrant smuggling and human

trafficking identified Habeta as a high priority target in October 2020 when member countries alerted INTERPOL to new leads about the fugitive's global smuggling activities, which were immediately shared with the NCB in The Hague.

The subsequent issue of the INTERPOL Red Notice played a central role in the location and arrest of the fugitive.

People smuggling syndicates are run like businesses with high profit margins and links to a wide range of serious and often violent crimes including illicit money flows, corruption, terrorism, trafficking in illicit goods and human trafficking.

They focus on profit margins, facilitating the passage of migrants with little or no regard for their safety and well-being. International police cooperation

Criminal groups behind human trafficking and migrant smuggling were already hit last July when INTERPOL's operation Liberterra saw 286 suspects arrested worldwide.

In April, Operation Weka mobilized 24 source, transit and destination countries enabling authorities in Africa and Europe to rescue nearly 500 victims of human trafficking and identify some 760 irregular migrants.

Both operations boosted regional law enforcement cooperation into people smuggling and triggered associated police investigations in all continents into targets like Habeta.

This latest investigation was supported by The Regional Operational Centre in support of the Khartoum Process and the African Union (AU) Horn of Africa Initiative (ROCK) and Europol.

Source: www.interpol.int

Remembering Our Departed Heroes

Revelation 14:13

And I heard a voice from heaven saying write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on. Blessed indeed, says the spirit, that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"



Cst Onkamogetse Bathobogeng
Died: 11-08-2021
Last Station: Serious Crime Squad



Sgt Mooketsi Abotseng
Died: 13-08-2021
Last Station: Special Support Group (SSG)



Cst Modongo Chaka
Died: 18-08-2021
Last Station: Letlhakeng



Insp Teko Mohabano
Died: 18-08-2021
Last Station: Forensic Science Services (FSS)



SSP Alison Mbaiwa
Died: 20-08-2021
Last Station: Division HQ - North



Sgt Motlhokomedi Koontse
Died: 15-08-2021
Last Station: SSG



Sgt Salo Borothile
Died: 23-08-2021
Last Station: Chukumuchu



Sgt Michael Tshambani
Died: 24-08-2021
Last Station: Urban



Sgt Moabi Khandala
Died: 25-08-2021
Last Station: Kanye



Insp Andries Andries
Died: 13-09-2021
Last Station: Human Resources Unit



Sgt Babati Mpedi
Died: 15-09-2021
Last Station: Mogoditshane



Sgt Angelinah Mpoaphoa
Died: 19-09-2021
Last Station: Mathubudukwane



Sgt Mogae Mabotho
Died: 21-09-2021
Last Station: Gerald



Cst Lucky Balosi
Died: 23-09-2021
Last Station: Tsabong



Sgt Goememang Mojakgomo
Died: 01-10-2021
Last Station: Mabeleapudi



S/Insp Esther James
Died: 29-10-2021
Last Station: Central



Cst Otshepheng Mthimkhulu
Died: 05-11-2021
Last Station: Ramotswa

May Their Souls Rest In Peace

KE TSAA TSHWETSO

TO STAY ALERT MO TSELENG

- And never walk along or cross the road with headphones on



- By ignoring my cellphone and other distractions while driving

- By never texting when driving

**Sustaining Botswana's Legacy
by cultivating responsible use of the road
by the youth leaders of tomorrow**

