

Hundreds of police guns lost

2012-09-26 22:29



Cape Town - A total of 1 202 police firearms have gone missing since the beginning of last year, Police Minister **Nathi Mthethwa** revealed on Wednesday.

Mthethwa said in a written Parliamentary response that 885 firearms were lost or stolen last year and 317 this year. Of those, 170 had been recovered.

The Democratic Alliance said the large number of lost police firearms was fuelling an illicit trade in weapons.

"This means that the majority of these dangerous weapons are still out there on the street, most likely being used to commit crime," said DA spokesperson Dianne Kohler Barnard.

"The reality is that the SAPS is fuelling the illegal firearms trade in this country."

- SAPA



SharonE - September 26, 2012 at 22:42

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Question: Does this number include the guns sold from the evidence lockers?

I would assume the answer is no, and nobody will believe that it doesn't happen:

<http://www.iol.co.za/news/crime-courts/cop-held-for-selling-evidence-gun-1.1278187>

109

1

Reply to SharonE | 7 comments (hide) | Delete



JockBlack - September 26, 2012 at 23:23

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How much SAPS corruption and crime by policemen have we seen in the past 18years, plenty!!

Say what you want, the police from the old regime was a formidable force, they showed zero tolerance for bad behaviour inside and outside the SAP, everyone including whites had a fearful respect for them.

SAP from the old regime was a reflection of the government, same character - they did not tolerate, ill-discipline, slackness and thuggery.... the same way we were raised in schools pre 1994.

219

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liesure.larry - September 26, 2012 at 23:32

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"Hundreds of police guns lost".... nonsense they where all sold on the Black Market....

134

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Kevin Kramer - September 27, 2012 at 06:17

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@leisurelarry: black being the operative word...

68

8

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Leonard Bloch - September 27, 2012 at 06:45

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For me, this story simply shows the quality, or lack thereof of the police that are appointed. It would be very interesting to see stats for lost weapons prior to '94. Seems to me as if the standards have dropped dramatically.

65

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Squeegee Pilot - September 27, 2012 at 07:06

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Dare lose yours and see how deep in the dwang you are...

67

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Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 07:32

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@Leonardb1: Seems? The primary concern of the cANCers from 94 was to remove all checks and balances. This is why no books under government control will ever balance again, nothing is off limits including selling police weapons and lies and miss information is the order of the day. What we see and hear about is only the tip of the iceberg.

42

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Alicialouise - September 27, 2012 at 15:06

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I would say "Sold" would be more accurate.

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henk.vanrensburg.31 - September 26, 2012 at 22:48

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And Zuma said something about the rule of law.....eish...

85

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[Reply to henk.vanrensburg.31](#) | [2 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



Tony Baxter - September 27, 2012 at 10:47

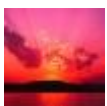
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Yes, Zuma did say that the rule of law is to be upheld. Consequently, we should expect to see 1,202 Police fired for failing to return their issued weapons. They must have records! surely?

21

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mapepaki - September 27, 2012 at 15:00

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Lost or sold? I think it would be the latter

3

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Bullet Proof - September 26, 2012 at 22:49

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And do you call police to those idiots?

43

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Reply to Bullet Proof | 3 comments (hide) | Delete



Harold Chisimba - September 26, 2012 at 23:34

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hahahaa! Is it not u B.u.l.l.e.t p.r.o.o.f Why did u nickname yourself

2

26

| Delete



Harold Chisimba - September 26, 2012 at 23:34

Report commentComments Policy

hahahaa! Is it not u B.u.l.l.e.t p.r.o.o.f Why did u nickname yourself

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18

| Delete



anthro45 - September 27, 2012 at 09:44

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That's what you get when you employ uneducated criminals.

14

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[| Delete](#)



The Hoff - September 26, 2012 at 23:03

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Police guns going missing = lower crime stats. Hmmm?

66

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[Reply to The Hoff](#) | 0 comments (hide) | [Delete](#)



joy.clark.794628 - September 26, 2012 at 23:09

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LOST I WONDER!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!????

39

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[Reply to joy.clark.794628](#) | 0 comments (hide) | [Delete](#)

Savethe White O - September 26, 2012 at 23:13

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The number is probably double that and been manipulated like the crime stats. Eish lost you gun howw here is another one

58

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Reply to Savethe White O | 3 comments (hide) | Delete



SharonE - September 26, 2012 at 23:20

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20429 police firearms lost between April 2004 and March 2011, which means an average of approximately 3000 per year.

The figures quoted in the article are substantially less than the ones above, so one can assume that there is a bit of under-reporting happening here!

73

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nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 04:09

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sharon where or how did you get that figure, from media???if so,i'm laughing at you

2

70

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SharonE - September 27, 2012 at 09:02

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@ nkosi - I expect you are right! I got the number from an article posted by the BBC, but the true figure is in all probability much much higher!

28

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Isfreak - September 26, 2012 at 23:24

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Just a question.. If I lose or if my gun is stolen and is used in a crime I'm responsible. If these missing guns are used are the "cops" that lost them held responsible??

80

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[Reply to Isfreak](#) | [6 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 04:05

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where did you get that nonsense you are saying??who told you that you are responsible for that firearm???you know nothing man

3

106

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Fussed Anderson - September 27, 2012 at 06:05

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Proof of education

46

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Hein Huyser - September 27, 2012 at 06:20

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Proof of lack of education

48

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Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 07:37

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And based on nkosikhonorman.ludidi comment and photo we can now assume that his words are the reason that official service weapons gets sold to criminals. Lack of responsibility.... and lack of conscience.

37

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nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 07:51

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koos i commented like that because you don't know about SAPS,We get charged if we lost our service pistols and declared unfit to carry firearms,but you people you just talk and talk as if you know,some of the police get fired for loosing their guns

3

34

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Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 08:00

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Yes nkosikhonorman.ludidi I talk. I talk of what I've seen with my own eyes and what I've experienced firsthand. I know this and of this I will talk and I have a few stories to tell. Let's just say that I have learned my lessons well. P.S. you commented like that because that is how you see it.

29

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Tim Elliott - September 26, 2012 at 23:25

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This beggars belief and Mthetwa goes to bed at night with zero conscience about guns stolen and crime stats!What a f..g disgrace!Show some pride..RESIGN!!

57

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[Reply to Tim Elliott](#) | [5 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 04:02

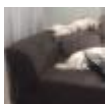
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tim,what can you do if you can be appointed as SAPS minister????

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69

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karel.dutoit.50 - September 27, 2012 at 05:36

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@ nkosi That is the problem. Too many political figures talking too much with no action.

44

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| Delete



nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 07:45

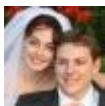
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tim.when Nathi resigns please apply for the post maybe you will come with a plan to end crime

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| Delete



marc.klynhans - September 27, 2012 at 08:28

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Nkosi - by the sound of his name, he will never get the job.

17

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| Delete



psych.lone.92 - September 27, 2012 at 13:21

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I wouldn't get the job, but for one thing, I'd increase training capabilities, give the police permission to return fire if fired upon. bring back the death penalty and allow home-owners or anyone for that matter to defend themselves and their property (King of my Castle clause U.S. constitution)

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Harold Chisimba - September 26, 2012 at 23:29

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No wonder that armed robbery is on increase.

46

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Erna Westdyk - September 26, 2012 at 23:29

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Don't stories like this give you a warm, fuzzy and SAFE feeling?

40

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[Reply to Erna Westdyk](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



David Eccles - September 26, 2012 at 23:46

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What? We have police?

43

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[Reply to David Eccles](#) | [3 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



devon.riley.52 - September 27, 2012 at 02:37

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divid we still have some good cop out there, but the rest are criminals in blue

26

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nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 03:58

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david,no you alone,you don't have the police

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51

| [Delete](#)



vicker.man.3 - September 27, 2012 at 07:55

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Jeesh nkosiNkonkoni - when did they let you loose out of your cage to play on the computa?

33

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rophiwa.ronald.1 - September 26, 2012 at 23:58

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They turns to illégál trade of guns coz gvernment paid them penuts .:::: ONE:::

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37

Reply to rofhiwa.ronald.1 | 5 comments (hide) | Delete



Ronald - September 27, 2012 at 01:09

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Paid peanuts? I don't think so. Look at the salaries per month from min to max in 2010 according to Popcru: Constable - R8461 to R10294, Sergeant - R10706 to R13025, Warrant Officer - R13426 to R19632, Lieutenant/Captain - R16988 to R20669, Major/Lt Col - R21399 to R26034, Colonel - R38765 to R47077. This does not include benefits like housing, etc.

41

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Charmaine Paterson - September 27, 2012 at 05:52

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Thank you Ront! I am so tired of hearing how badly paid the police are. Constables have matric and a couple of months in-house training and look at what they earn. They also have various allowances, such as danger pay. Not many places in this country where you can walk out of school and earn that much, ask the miners.

31

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nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 07:29

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paterson.miners at lonmin mine some of them have STD 1 BUT THEY GET PAID NOT LESS THAN R8000

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Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 07:40

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Damn, make me wonder why I ever bothered to study. I should have gone into mining or joined the police.

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Sean Wolf - September 27, 2012 at 07:48

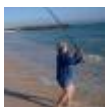
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@rophiwa.ronald.1- You are as brainless as they can get ! Now you trying justify crime ! How about stop holding your hands open thinking the world owes you , start working !

16

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Arthur Crisp - September 27, 2012 at 00:51

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"Mthethwa said in a written Parliamentary response that 885 firearms were lost or stolen last year and 317 this year. Of those, 170 had been recovered."

Please tell us do Nathi..... 170 were recovered, how many of these were used in crimes? How many police officers were prosecuted for theft of firearms and how many were prosecuted for gross negligence? Why have firearms if they are not used against crime?

30

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Reply to Arthur Crisp | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Danie - September 27, 2012 at 04:17

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Do they the police fight crime or do they fuel crime? Its not only the rich loosing out , without investors the poor South African loose a opportunity to be employed.

17

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Reply to Danie | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Gerrit van Pletzen - September 27, 2012 at 05:17

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Every policeman who loses his firearm should be prosecuted and fired. The law makes provision for charges if a firearm is negligently handled, or lost.

23

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Reply to Gerrit van Pletzen | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Toofaan Monsoon - September 27, 2012 at 05:35

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Riggghhht. Now let's here the \Gun Free South Africa\ response. The more illegal guns there are out there in the hands of criminals, the greater the need for decent law abiding citizens to have access to a means of defence. But Noooo, this group thinks that we should just let only cops have legal guns. Guess what, nobody knows where thousands of cop guns are.

31

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Reply to Toofaan Monsoon | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



Buzzbar - September 27, 2012 at 09:40

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Agree, I'm still waiting for the GFSA lot to put signs up outside their houses stating they are members of Gun Free SA and don't have a firearm on the premises. Bu then again, I doubt they believe in their cause that strongly....

5

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Hendrick Mokwale - September 27, 2012 at 05:41

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Lost?o am i lost here?#1000guns

5

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[Reply to Hendrick Mokwale](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)

Kevin Kramer - September 27, 2012 at 06:21

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Eish...sorry Baas....Ei dunno whet heppen two thee gun...angaas...

13

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[Reply to Kevin Kramer](#) | [1 comment \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 08:36

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@mavis.tlhoaele: That is not racist. You catch a black guy at 3am in your yard, put him under your boot and you'll be surprised how quickly you are referred to as "Baas". Nothing racist about it. If anything a sign of respect or even fear but not racist.

14

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Johnno du Plessis - September 27, 2012 at 06:24

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Since members of the police force are neither disciplined, nor expected to pay recompense for any lost weapon, my guess would be that the majority of these guns are actually being sold... and to criminals at that!

17

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[Reply to Johnno du Plessis](#) | [3 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 07:09

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lack of information brother, if you lost a firearm at SAPS you pay for it

3

24

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Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 07:52

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@nkosikhonorman.ludidi: Question, how do you “lose” your firearm?

17

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Kevin Owen - October 12, 2012 at 16:27

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no question that most of them have been sold

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Ron Samuels - September 27, 2012 at 06:25

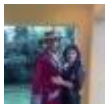
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Resign and go back to banking,not that you are doing that job any better!

10

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[Reply to Ron Samuels](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



Marco De Giovanni - September 27, 2012 at 06:28

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I would love to know if the officers responsible for the fire arms lost have been made accountable for the loss/misplacement of these weapons as required by law , and have their accreditations been review etc.As a private citizen and owner of firearms i know what will happen to me if i report my firearm missing etc

11

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Reply to Marco De Giovanni | 4 comments (hide) | Delete



nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 07:06

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marco we always get your firearms at robbery scenes because you hire criminals those private firearms,,

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27

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Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 07:42

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Private firearms include R5's?

14

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nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 08:21

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koos those R5 you are talking about are those who get robbed from police but most of the firearms we ge at scenes are private ones,some of them not even reported stolen or robbed by the lawful owner,only to find out that he hired the firearm to the criminal

2

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| Delete



Koos van der Merwe - September 27, 2012 at 08:43

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@nkosikhonorman.ludidi: I am not denying that you do find private firearms and I have no sympathy for private owners who "lose" their firearms BUT I have witnessed 3 bank robberies, one postal robbery and one exploding ATM robbery (I should tell you that one, very funny) in the last 3 years and R5's and AK's where featured heavily so you can't place the blame on private owners alone. Hell given a choice I'd rather face a 9mm then a R5.

7

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Hein Huyser - September 27, 2012 at 06:28

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Station commanders, this is a reflection on you and your deployed cadres.

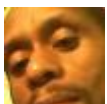
Enough now. A total cleanup of the system is required, starting with the prezzie, and then work our way down to the entrant constable. If he disrespects the constitution, the "state" can not employ him/her.

Zero tollerance

9

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[Reply to Hein Huyser](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



mshiniboys - September 27, 2012 at 06:43

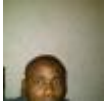
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some have been given to political friends to scare their way up in political parties or shoot and kill the competitors.Check Bheki Cele's house you might find one of these shoot to kill machines.

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Reply to mshiniboy | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Bafana Joseph - September 27, 2012 at 06:43

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our police are useless im not surprise

17

3

Reply to Bafana Joseph | 3 comments (hide) | Delete



nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 07:01

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bafana are you useful you???

0

25

| Delete



Mandy Casey - September 27, 2012 at 07:12

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Bafana can't even play soccer

6

2

| Delete



nkosikhonorman.ludidi - September 27, 2012 at 08:15

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bafana i am used to the name USELESS.I hear it everyday when i pass uneducated people like me,,they always call us izinja(dogs)only few people appreciate my work and i am happy for that

2

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Bobbie Booyse - September 27, 2012 at 06:51

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Lost or sold?

8

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[Reply to Bobbie Booyse](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



craig.fawkes1 - September 27, 2012 at 06:56

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I have to wonder how one loses a gun. I think there is going to be more on this in the future.

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[Reply to craig.fawkes1](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



Fanie Gerber - September 27, 2012 at 06:59

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please add these 5300 aswell <http://www.news24.com/SouthAfrica/News/Cops-lose-5-300-firearms-20100602>

5

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Reply to Fanie Gerber | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Eve Eland - September 27, 2012 at 07:12

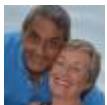
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Is the police themselves,who else can it be...

6

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Reply to Eve Eland | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Arthur Salvado - September 27, 2012 at 07:15

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Can the police please put out a price list together with the description of the guns. Thank you

13

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Reply to Arthur Salvado | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Krishna - September 27, 2012 at 07:28

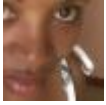
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haibo!

4

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Reply to Krishna | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Rara Sitofu - September 27, 2012 at 07:28

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Do they get stolen or do they sell them,where do they keep their guns!They(police) must think that we r stupid!

7

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Reply to Rara Sitofu | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Peter Zylstra - September 27, 2012 at 07:32

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Disgusting! Are they perhaps building an arsenal for future attacks on their ennimies?

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Reply to Peter Zylstra | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



sthembiso.jali.58 - September 27, 2012 at 07:40

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when they search for those guns they must begin at capeflats, drugs warzone.

6

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Reply to sthembiso.jali.58 | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



mphela.kelatu - September 27, 2012 at 07:50

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n kzn were politicians people they get shot every single month

2

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[| Delete](#)



gaopalelwes - September 27, 2012 at 07:58

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Were these people screened or just employed of having green ID? Seems we've mercenaries here. Mind u foreigners do have SA I'd these days thanks to forerign affairs.

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[Reply to gaopalelwes](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



Eugene Muller - September 27, 2012 at 08:02

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Then when a firearm is used in a crime, ballistics can prove it is a SAPS weapon. In the case of loss of life, sue the state for compensation and negligence?

4

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dejaay.heineken - September 27, 2012 at 08:51

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Its unfortunate how other ppl lost the firearm and I think it was going to be 0 loss or stolen firearm if saps can say police must leave the firearm at work when going home and if u said u life is not safe at the street and u took it wit u home and it got stolen or lost u must be fired cos u insist to carry it!

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sesom - September 27, 2012 at 09:44

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Sure, they sell them to there friends... Hang these bastards

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[Reply to sesom](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



Alan John Ingram - September 27, 2012 at 10:25

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The SAPS guns are NOT lost, they are sold to criminals !!!!!!!!!!!

0

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[Reply to Alan John Ingram](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



cordeliam - September 27, 2012 at 10:33

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Say no more!!!!

0

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Reply to cordeliam | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



flysouth - September 27, 2012 at 11:48

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Day after day as we read yet more news stories about the utterly dismal management of everything in government hands one thing is clear - NONE OF THIS CAN BE FIXED WHILST THE ANC HOLDS THE POWER!

The only solution is a complete change - get rid of the ANC first and then, with honest and competent and accountable politicians and administrators the mess can be repaired.

2

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Reply to flysouth | 0 comments (hide) | Delete