

Police have 'lost' 20 429 weapons

2011-03-09 10:49

Cape Town - The police force admitted on Tuesday that a lack of discipline and weapon control was "worrying", after it came to light that police had "lost" 20 429 weapons since April 2004.

Top management couldn't say in Parliament on Tuesday how many officials had been criminally prosecuted, disciplined or fired due to the losses.

MPs from the ANC and opposition parties reacted angrily and said it was unacceptable that citizens were prosecuted for losing their private weapons while police officials got off scot-free.

MPs even accused the police of playing in part in the country's high crime rate.

Licence

According to statistics presented by Lieutenant-General Gary Kruser, head of procurement services, to the portfolio committee on police, only 4 810 weapons were found again in the same time period.

Top management couldn't come up with answers when committee members questioned them about what happened to officials who lost their weapons.

"The Firearms Control Act puts a huge responsibility on citizens but an official can lose one weapon, a second and a third weapon and still keep his firearm licence. But if I lose my weapon, it is another matter," said Annelize van Wyk of the ANC.

She said the conditions were much stricter for civilians than for police officials. "If you take into account all the losses, police are responsible for the increase in illegal firearms."

ANC MP and committee chairperson Sindi Chikunga ascribed the losses to a "laissez-faire attitude" in the police, "because I know if I lose my weapon, I will get another one".

Murders

"I am convinced that many murders are committed with police weapons."

The DA's Dianne Kohler Barnard said she wouldn't be surprised if officials sold their weapons to criminals.

Pieter Groenewald of the FF+ wanted to know how many officials had been criminally prosecuted and how many had competency certificates.

MPs believed police officials should be responsible for paying for weapons they had lost and that they should be punished.

Police national personnel head, Lieutenant General Magda Stander, admitted the lack of discipline and firearm control was "indeed worrying".

- Die Burger

Comment 1500 characters remaining



Share on Facebook



Share on Twitter



Kia4 - March 9, 2011 at 10:55

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

That explains the violent crime rate!!! shocking.....

14

0

[Reply to Kia4](#) | [9 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



tigertank - March 9, 2011 at 11:35

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Phew.....they find it "worrying"...I can sleep easy at night knowing that they are now worried. Maybe they will even become "irked" or "perturbed". If the army loses a tank or two, they might even spill their tea!

57

0

| [Delete](#)



rodnekydc - March 9, 2011 at 12:39

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

20429 & counting , what a good business , the stock is free , profits are good , free delivery anywhere any time , just phone 10111 to place your order , buy three and your ammo is FREEEEEEEEEEEE!!!!

22

0

[| Delete](#)



SaintBruce - March 9, 2011 at 13:11

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

And nobody asked how much ammunition has been lost at the same time?

I am incredulous as to how the Police Officer can 'lose' a firearm.

It is in a holster, attached to his/ her belt that is fastened around the waist (maybe also holds their pants up).

In the days gone by military and Police had lanyards around the shoulder under the epauletts (ever wondered why the shirts have those) and fastened to the butt of the pistol or revolver.

So - if running or in a physical combat situation, the weapon is still attached to the officer even if dropped. This is a very cheap fix!

As for R5 and R1 rifles and shotguns, how do you 'lose' something that big?

Some comments say the police sell these weapons, then get another one!

In the 'old' SADF if you mislaid / lost your weapon you were in serious trouble. I know this as a guy in my squad had his R1 stolen when he went to a shebeen (left it in the jeep) in a township and got drunk. The police picked up a guy carrying it later that night and the idiot returned to barracks without realising the weapon was gone!

When the MP's arrived he was shocked sober!

This is a shocking confession by our Police and citizens should demand more details and corrective action.

15

0

[| Delete](#)



Kevin Gleeson - March 9, 2011 at 13:15

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

;~D Tigertank your comment is very funny, my wife and I had a good laugh, albeit a very serious situation. Well done bud your humour rises to the top.

3

0

[| Delete](#)



Hans-Erik Iken - March 9, 2011 at 13:33

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

They talk the talk, now lets see if they walk the walk. I suggest they start by firing the one responsible: Cele. He is the one in charge and therefor responsible.

ANY cop that loses his/her firearm should be fined the first time and fired the second time. That will end this very quickly I think.

7

0

[| Delete](#)



Kia4 - March 9, 2011 at 13:59

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

It would appear that the police force is not being sensitised on ethical behaviour... From the leaders all the way down to the officers, Apparent from the Jacki Selebi case and now with Bheki Cele! It needs serious overhaul!!!

4

0

[| Delete](#)



Heather Stip - March 9, 2011 at 14:44

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Ha-ha, tigertank, very funny! Just the laugh I needed!

0

0

[| Delete](#)



Jo - March 9, 2011 at 15:25

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

That's an average of 7.9 weapons a day for 7 years - every day. I'm amazed that we aren't tripping over them in the streets, if they've been "lost".

2

0

[| Delete](#)



GP - October 12, 2011 at 17:50

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Yes. So around 21,000 deaths have been caused due to police negligence! (assuming only 1 person is murdered with each gun!!!)

2

0

[| Delete](#)



Viparo - March 9, 2011 at 10:55

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Bunch of clowns. How do they expect any respect from the public? The cops from the movie "Police academy" have more respect from me.

35

0

Reply to Viparo | 3 comments (hide) | Delete



Felix - March 9, 2011 at 11:17

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

classic!

0

0

| Delete



Hans-Erik Iken - March 9, 2011 at 13:30

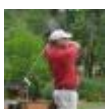
[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Off course they do Viparo, at least in those films they actually manage to solve the crime...

1

0

| Delete



dirk.klaver.7 - March 9, 2011 at 13:48

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

And they keep their guns.....

5

0

| Delete



Superdude - March 9, 2011 at 10:56

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Cheese and rice thats mindblowing.

3

0

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



alwyn.kruger.92 - March 9, 2011 at 10:59

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Lost??? Rather say Police have sold 20429 fire carms to criminals out there,,,,,How can we trust cops to look after us of they can not even be trusted to look after fire arms,again proof of a very incompetent Police Force run by incompetent fools

42

0

[Reply to alwyn.kruger.92](#) | [2 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



alwyn.kruger.92 - March 9, 2011 at 11:00

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Meant to say fire arms ,typing error

0

0

| [Delete](#)



HowardX - March 9, 2011 at 17:22

Report commentComments Policy

Precisely. How do you just "lose" a gun, anyway? Obviously, so many "lost" weapons can only be because they are being re-sold. They should charge police officers whose firearms are found to be used in a crime as accessories to the crime - that should put a stop to it.

0

0

| Delete



patrickb - March 9, 2011 at 11:00

Report commentComments Policy

As Mrs Thatcher said:

"if you think the ANC is capable of running South Africa, you are living in cloud cuckoo land"

47

0

Reply to patrickb | 3 comments (hide) | Delete



GT - March 9, 2011 at 11:39

Report commentComments Policy

Let's not let facts ruin a good story.

The widely-quoted "cloud-cuckoo land" remark attributed to MT at the end of this article is apocryphal. As far as can be traced she never made a public comment even similar to this. Rather the origin of the quote appears to be a response by her press spokesman, Bernard Ingham, on 16 October 1987 at the Vancouver Commonwealth Heads of Government meeting. A Canadian journalist speculated that the African National Congress might overthrow the white South African regime, to which he replied: "It is cloud cuckooland for anyone to believe that could be done." (See Washington Post, 17 Oct 1987.) Years later the words were modified and attributed to MT by Hugo Young, who claimed that she had said at Vancouver: "Anyone who thinks that the ANC is going to run the government in South Africa is living in cloud-cuckoo land". (See The Guardian, 26 Apr 1994.) In that form they became part of the journalistic 'record'.

7

0

| Delete



Zee - March 9, 2011 at 14:55

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

BOOM - nice one GT, can't argue with facts!

0

0

| Delete



Dougalan - March 9, 2011 at 16:23

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Apocryphal or not - it is the total truth. The ANC have absolutely proved themselves incapable of running South Africa - hospitals have become death camps, ANC municipalities cannot get clean audits, service is not delivered, the police - starting from Cele - are a shambles, our submarines and Gripen fighters (bought at massive cost to include kickbacks) are lying idle for lack of maintenance....the list just goes on and on. When will voters realise it is THEY who are being robbed by the ANC and vote for decent governance instead of 'cloud cuckoo land governance'.

2

0

| Delete



gilliansan - March 9, 2011 at 11:01

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

lost...my ass!

6

0

Reply to gilliansan | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Barry - March 9, 2011 at 11:02

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Not Lost. Sold to criminals

12

0

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



wormyzn - March 9, 2011 at 11:04

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Never mind how many State firearms are lost, what is the number of those handed in by legal owners?

9

0

[Reply to wormyzn](#) | [7 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



Felix - March 9, 2011 at 11:18

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

? your point sir ?

2

0

| [Delete](#)



oubaaspieter - March 9, 2011 at 11:47

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

And what happens to those handed in?

1

0

| Delete



Squeeze - March 9, 2011 at 12:22

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

That is why i won't hand in my fire arms. I need to protect me and my family against the corrupt police

6

0

| Delete



Mike - March 9, 2011 at 12:24

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

@ Felix - Alot of handed in weapons are finding their way back onto the street, how the %\$^& do you think that happens ? you dumbass

4

0

| Delete



peter.lloyd.5036 - March 9, 2011 at 12:32

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

@Felix, his point is that guns don't kill people, police and their criminal pals do.

3

0

| Delete



EchoTango - March 9, 2011 at 15:55

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I think what wormyzn is trying to say is that while law abiding citizens are "forcefully" encourage by the difficulty in getting your licence renewed the police are arming the criminals.

0

0

[| Delete](#)



Justinpassin - March 9, 2011 at 17:02

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

A good point. How many firearms have been handed in to the police by civilians since the FCA became law?. The next question is more pertinent - How many of these firearms do the police still have in their possession?. The answer to this might be mind-boggling!. How many have been sold or given to the criminal elements?.

2

0

[| Delete](#)



stiffler - March 9, 2011 at 11:05

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Lets stop generalising for a second, that'll get us no where because im sure there are a few honest cops still left. Cops who take care of their weapons and vehicles etc. How about we name and shame the ones that somehow lose their weapons or equipment. Lets point fingers at those directly responsible, maybe then we can get some direct answers. Mr police commissioner... can you assist? LMFAO well we can all hope right??

5

0

[Reply to stiffler](#) | [2 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



alwyn.kruger.92 - March 9, 2011 at 11:12

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

You are right,they are called white cops ,,,,left the force because of racism and nepotism,,victimisation,,,Idiots got promoted instead of hard working honest cops ,And this is a fact,i gave 24 years of my life and health to the SAP circuss but use my expertise and commitment in the private sector where im still appreciated

40

0

[| Delete](#)



HowardX - March 9, 2011 at 17:25

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

No need to name and shame them. Just apply the law and charge them as accessories to any crimes committed with their "lost" weapons.

0

0

[| Delete](#)



AJ - March 9, 2011 at 11:07

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

If you are shot, it might be by a cop, or it might be by a criminal, but in either case it most probably using a police firearm. Disgusting.

14

0

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



will baker - March 9, 2011 at 11:07

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

This is what happens when you put some uneducated idiot in charge of the police.

23

0

[Reply to will baker](#) | [1 comment \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



ardeola7 - March 9, 2011 at 11:58

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Right - we just manage to get rid of one stupid, crooked man who knows nothing about police work (Selebi), when they "deploy" another one with exactly the same qualifications!

8

0

| [Delete](#)



foulshamnairn - March 9, 2011 at 11:08

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Lost or Sold?

1

0

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



24newsreader - March 9, 2011 at 11:08

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Idiots its a crime against the nation, treason. No wonder we have so much crime

2

0

Reply to 24newsreader | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



Mr Hobbit - March 9, 2011 at 11:19

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

EXACTLY - TREASON!

It used to be punishable by death. However, our previous National Police Commissioner set the tone, consorting with self-confessed drug lords.

Finish & klaar.

2

0

| [Delete](#)



General.AlanMuller - March 9, 2011 at 11:10

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

This is of course in relation to the 3500 odd firearms lost by and/or stolen from legitimate Firearm owners in the same period ... who should control who... this also does not mention the alleged renting of firearms(usually R 5 lmg) to criminals on an hourly basis by corrupt cops....

and Yes not all cops are bad and or corrupt... but poor salaries and terrible management mean we loose good Cops every day to the private sector...

2

0

Reply to General.AlanMuller | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Dan Grey - March 9, 2011 at 11:12

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Heaven forbid you should lose your gun, for then you will be punished. Were the police punished???
Of course not!

The guns were sold.

8

0

Reply to Dan Grey | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Say It - March 9, 2011 at 11:12

Report commentComments Policy

if only we had access to the following:

1. How many civilian weapons have gone "lost" not stolen;
2. How many civilian weapons were stolen using "lost" SAPS weapons;
3. Steps taken against SAPS officials for losing weapons, vis-a-vis steps that can be taken against civilians that "lose" their weapons. In the latter criminal charges can be instituted against civilians.

2

0

Reply to Say It | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Stinkhout - March 9, 2011 at 11:13

Report commentComments Policy

So for the last 7 years they lost 8 weapons every single day! Or on a positive note, created 8 jobs per day for the crime business sector.

10

0

Reply to Stinkhout | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Darwinian - March 9, 2011 at 11:13

Report commentComments Policy

You can start an army with that! Do we even have 20 429 members in the defense force? I'm sure this is another initiative to arm the masses.....

9

0

Reply to Darwinian | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



Felix - March 9, 2011 at 11:22

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I'm afraid you may be correct... terrorists livin here in the not so United SA.

3

0

| [Delete](#)



braamc - March 9, 2011 at 11:13

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Competent aren't they?

2

0

Reply to braamc | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



JuluisMalema - March 9, 2011 at 11:13

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

O and what did they say about it. " How hoo haa hee jo na we Eish we are so sorry".

They are corrupt police officers fire them.

People got scared for the cut of date of the license's for their weapons they saw they were not going to make it and hand it in at their local police station, thinking it is safe, then the officers take these weapons and say they went missing, then they sell the weapons and put them back on the streets illegally. And that is why the crime rate is so high police officers, goverment the whole justice system is corrupt.

I mean there is no more place for criminals in jails, what do they do? Yes put the criminals back on the streets. And sell weapons also sommer to them. That is how South Africa is going on.

Then Goverment officials will hold a speech and say "nnnghe so then but now infact especially because you see the crime thing she is no problem in South Africa no, but how eish jo na wee hoo haa hee e-e-e-e this Lightning thing she is a very big problem e-e-e-e-e eish bana we should investigate this lighning thing the bloody agent, lightning she is white ne so it has racial tendansies and only kill black people."

Now that is the education of our current parliament the one's not even passed matric nor grade 10 even, but these clowns wants to ran a whole nation. Please stop clowning around and make Helen Zille or Steve Hofmyer presedent.

6

0

Reply to JuluisMalema | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



fredpotgieter - March 9, 2011 at 11:19

Report commentComments Policy

Haha! This is what replacing brainpower, experience and knowledge with this stupid BEE boils down to. Just a pity the clowns in charge can't read, so they will not even read this article or any comments.

4

0

Reply to fredpotgieter | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



CheekySod - March 9, 2011 at 11:20

Report commentComments Policy

According to the www.saps.gov.za website, there are 190199 members of the police force. With 20 429 weapons "lost" it amounts to 10.74% lost weapons.

Simply unacceptable.

5

0

Reply to CheekySod | 2 comments (hide) | Delete



jiamalunga - March 9, 2011 at 11:30

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Hi your maths is counter revolutionary

0

0

[| Delete](#)



CheekySod - March 9, 2011 at 11:46

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

That depends where you stand.

1

0

[| Delete](#)



Bennie - March 9, 2011 at 11:20

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

and then the are giving me sh*& about weapons that I ahve safely lloked after for 30 years ????

1

0

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



Currie_Mafia - March 9, 2011 at 11:21

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Pity, it's not so easy to lose that beer belly & fat backside...

16

0

Reply to Currie_Mafia | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Dazza22 - March 9, 2011 at 11:21

Report commentComments Policy

Err they didn't lose them, it was more like hau, nobody told me I must not lose my gun and use it to murder, rob, rape and hijack.....

2

0

Reply to Dazza22 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Sisie - March 9, 2011 at 11:22

Report commentComments Policy

They not missing - the cops just sold them to the criminals.

1

0

Reply to Sisie | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



gobetween - March 9, 2011 at 11:22

Report commentComments Policy

Ah, 20 429 illegal firearms on our streets. Comforting thought. Someone made a pretty profit.

2

0

Reply to gobetween | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



jiamalunga - March 9, 2011 at 11:23

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Why must we comply with the CFR? WHY! When it becomes clearer everyday that this government is trying to Disarm us to stop the same situation oneday that Libya is finding themselves in.

8

0

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



Alfred Neumann - March 9, 2011 at 11:28

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Who needs criminals when you've got the SAPS? The only way they can stop crime is if they outperform the criminals and put them out of business.

5

0

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



Willem de Haan - March 9, 2011 at 11:29

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

As she says - it is indeed worrying! It worries me a lot - especially when heavily armed housebreakers attack law abiding citizens in their own backyard - and "no arrests were made". The question is - what is being done to stop the general and me from worrying more? I believe nothing - now, that is indeed worrying!

4

0

[Reply to Willem de Haan](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



ji - March 9, 2011 at 11:29

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

LOST , I don` t think so SOLD , yes that I can believe .

5

0

Reply to ji | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Mr Hobbit - March 9, 2011 at 11:32

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

It's the THIRD FORCE! They prowl the empty streets at night, in fast cars, on foot, they are the men of... the third force! General Cele, leave no stone unturned, bring the full might of the Law to bear upon these criminals.... oops, sorry - they are YOUR men! You said there are more than ten thousand convicted criminal policemen behind bars, now there are more than 20 000 firearms missing. You, Sir, have LOST THE PLOT.

4

0

Reply to Mr Hobbit | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



bill - March 9, 2011 at 11:40

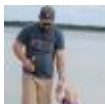
[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Thats a net 16 000 guns in the hands of criminals other than the police.What a country.The Anc is inferior and not fit to govern.

1

0

Reply to bill | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



andre.fouche.547 - March 9, 2011 at 11:45

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Police officers lose their firearms on a daily basis, I wonder how many “gave” it away to their violent criminal buddies? I have legally applied for my firearm license more than two years ago, and still no word when I will get it.... Maybe I must buy a “legal” firearm from a corrupt police officer? What the

hell, why don't we all just purchase illegal firearms, it does not make a difference to the police in any case! Viva ANC Chaos! Viva Incompetent SAPS!

6

0

Reply to andre.fouche.547 | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



colin - March 9, 2011 at 12:34

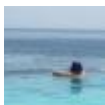
[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

You're right, why worry about a licence at all. In SA a crisp new fifty gets you out of any problem with the law. You and me may not do it, but "everyone else" does.

0

0

| [Delete](#)



Bartosz - March 9, 2011 at 11:46

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I lose my shoes on a daily basis!!!!!!

0

0

Reply to Bartosz | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



Faansie - March 9, 2011 at 11:54

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

He He

0

0

| Delete



Faansie - March 9, 2011 at 11:47

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Not so many moons ago, this very same issue was raised in parlement. At that time the figure was around 8000 guns 'lost'.

It now seems to me that since then, the situation actually became worst.

So nobody cares. The top brass wipe their arses on the problem. Maybe they dont want to be bothered with such trivia.

5

0

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



2c - March 9, 2011 at 16:37

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I remember the issue then. Now it has tripled in a few months. Someone was lying about the statistics. Next month it will be 40 000 guns missing. What happend? Nothing was done then, and nothing will be done now.

0

0

| Delete



SamuelMabena - March 9, 2011 at 11:47

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

If this is the 'ability' of the ruling ANC to govern our country's police force, then it's time for the ANC to go !!!

I will not be voting for this corrupt and INCOMPETENT ANC regime any longer !!!

27

0

Reply to SamuelMabena | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



generaalcharlie - March 9, 2011 at 11:50

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

A dog gets lost , A fire arm gets sold on the black market !!!

4

0

Reply to generaalcharlie | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



Andy49 - March 9, 2011 at 18:16

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

therefore a lost dog with a firearm must be a Poolezman!

0

0

| [Delete](#)



willow - March 9, 2011 at 11:51

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Seems misplacing things is a national pass time - like the number of children that get abandoned on our beaches every year - noticed that the goverment stopped releasing those stats a while ago. ROFL

1

0

Reply to willow | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Douglas Hendry - March 9, 2011 at 11:52

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I am coming home, to retire, in SA, next year, and thought about getting a gun licence and buying a handgun from a legit company. I am told that this is a tortuous and interminable process, so perhaps I should just buy one from a local policeman?

6

0

Reply to Douglas Hendry | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



AJ - March 9, 2011 at 11:58

Report commentComments Policy

Going the legal route to gain a firearm or doing a handstand and walking back from abroad on your palms are, I would surmise, equivalent in difficulty (and would probably take the same amount of time)...

1

0

| Delete



steven.romain - March 9, 2011 at 11:53

Report commentComments Policy

MY WEAPON WAS STOLEN IN A SAFETY DEPOSIT BOX ROBBERY...NO ONE CONVICTED OF COURSE.. WEAPON FOUND ON A SUSPECT ON THE CAPE FLATS...PISTOL WAS THEN SENT TO PRETORIA, THE DOCKET ON THE PERSON ARRESTED FOR HAVING THE WEAPON THEY SAY IS MISSING, NOW A YEAR AND A HALF LATER....THE PISTOL IS ALSO MISSING!!! YOU TELL ME.

5

0

Reply to steven.romain | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



n s - March 9, 2011 at 11:54

Report commentComments Policy

don't know if lost the correct word, stolen might be more appropriate. Crime affects everyone, but there's one consistent factor here...

0

0

Reply to n s | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Radie Loubser - March 9, 2011 at 11:56

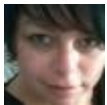
Report commentComments Policy

What a disgrace, they take the weapons from citizens, with licences, and then they lose them, what a corrupt bunch, criminals!

4

0

Reply to Radie Loubser | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



RenJayKay - March 9, 2011 at 12:03

Report commentComments Policy

"I am convinced that many murders are committed with police weapons." Of course they are! And by the police themselves. What better excuse for losing your weapon than it can get you caught?

2

0

Reply to RenJayKay | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



rodneycdc - March 9, 2011 at 12:06

Report commentComments Policy

What a comforting bit of info!!! Makes me want to hug the first SAPS member I can find

4

0

Reply to rodneykdc | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Greegs - March 9, 2011 at 12:09

Report commentComments Policy

And they want pay and benefit increases? Police and prison force are a joke. I need to ask the question... is it because they're mostly black?

2

0

Reply to Greegs | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



rodneykdc - March 9, 2011 at 12:15

Report commentComments Policy

You can't ask that or you'll be labelled a Formula 1 racist!!

1

0

| Delete



tut - March 9, 2011 at 12:11

Report commentComments Policy

These same weapons have been used to murder white farmers. What a shame man!

2

0

Reply to tut | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



kingswing69 - March 9, 2011 at 12:13

Report commentComments Policy

thats just beautiful great job SAP
JUST HAND WEAPONS OVER TO THE CRIMINALS
the funny thing is , how many criminals are in the SAP

3

1

Reply to kingswing69 | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



generaalcharlie - March 9, 2011 at 12:31

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

80 % of them are criminals , What do you expect in a country where the president is alsio a criminal
?

4

0

| Delete



Blah-blah - March 9, 2011 at 12:21

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

So the good citizens are handing over their weapons en masse so that it may be sold to the highest bidders (criminals) by the people who are supposed to protect us! Interesting pension plan boys-in-blue - but what are the rest of us supposed to do now - we are without any form of protection. Because clearly, you just don't give a pigs trotter...

3

1

Reply to Blah-blah | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



rodneykdc - March 9, 2011 at 12:22

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Why do apparently intelligent people hand over firearms in working order to people of questionable integrity. I handed all my firearms in sure!!! They were damaged, bent and buckled to the extent that NOBODY could use for anything but metal recycling.

4

1

Reply to rodneykdc | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



colin - March 9, 2011 at 12:23

Report commentComments Policy

Now that some of the criminals in uniform have disarmed themselves (anyone who loses a firearm in this country should be seen as a criminal) let the real cops catch the real criminals with unlicensed firearms and leave the licensed firearm owners alone.

3

1

Reply to colin | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



arno.oosthuizen - March 9, 2011 at 12:28

Report commentComments Policy

This is not worrying its not even close to being worrying..its disgraceful and completely and utterly unacceptable!! Twenty thousand weapons? Wars are fought with less. Why are heads not rolling? Who is going to answer for this...O I know..its me and you...with our lives.

4

2

Reply to arno.oosthuizen | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



allie - March 9, 2011 at 12:40

Report commentComments Policy

Maybe they are arming the third force with these weapons incase they loose the election.

1

0

| Delete



Eddie Bantjes - March 9, 2011 at 12:30

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Now you know where the weapons come from that are used in crime. Then they want to control my weapons?

6

1

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



1eye - March 9, 2011 at 12:33

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Mmm I wonder if a citizen who lost his firearm challenged the legal system on precedence in that he still has rights to acquire another firearm.

The current FCA denies him that right.

Are the Police not foremost citizens, then Policemen?

3

1

[Reply to 1eye](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



DownTheDrain - March 9, 2011 at 12:36

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

How the hell do you "loose" a gun, you can't just misplace the thing.

They are selling them and we are footing the bill, fire the lot because they have no idea what they are doing, half of them don't even know what their jobs are or how to read or write never mind actually know how to use a firearm.

4

1

Reply to DownTheDrain | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



peter.lloyd.5036 - March 9, 2011 at 12:37

Report commentComments Policy

Thank you hippie liberals, you made us hand over our weapons and this is what we are dealing with now! You are just the same as the bloody corrupt cops!

4

1

Reply to peter.lloyd.5036 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Marilena - March 9, 2011 at 12:37

Report commentComments Policy

20429 Weapons "LOST" ??? If this is how responsible our law enforcement officers are, heaven help us!!!! How stupid and or gullible do they think we South Africans are? What are the repercussions for an officer losing a weapon? Obviously not nearly enough to discourage what appears to be "habitual behavior".

2

1

Reply to Marilena | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



cosmic_99 - March 9, 2011 at 12:40

Report commentComments Policy

These guys are criminals in uniforms....

4

2

Reply to cosmic_99 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Zapper - March 9, 2011 at 12:41

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I hand in my firearms in the interests of a better SA and a brighter future and the SAPS loose and/or sell them ??? How do reduce crime and violence and respect law enforcement when the same are fueling crime and violence ?

3

1

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

[Top of Form](#)



AJ - March 9, 2011 at 12:42

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The Royal Malaysian Police Force had since 2001 recorded losing 62 firearms - 28 of which have been recovered. Just so you all know.....

4

1

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



sunshine123 - March 9, 2011 at 12:46

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The attitude towards civilian firearm ownership in this country is truly nonsensical. Illegal firearms (like drugs which can't be controlled no matter how much legislation you have) will always be there (e.g our porous borders and the fact that Africa is a civil war hot spot (not to mention the above article!))

The one thing that can be controlled is that good citizens who what to defend themselves can. The advantages of an illegal firearm in the hands of a bad guy can only be offset by 2 more in the hands of the good guy - essentially a balance of power!

Only once there is a change in mindset and stupid laws are changed can we win the fight (yes a fight, not singing songs and wearing stupid ribbons on our shirts) against crime!

2

1

Reply to sunshine123 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



sunshine123 - March 9, 2011 at 12:49

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The attitude towards civilian firearm ownership in this country is truly nonsensical. Illegal firearms (like drugs which can't be controlled no matter how much legislation you have) will always be there (e.g our porous borders and the fact that Africa is a civil war hot spot (not to mention the above article!))

The one thing that can be controlled is that good citizens who what to defend themselves can. The advantages of an illegal firearm in the hands of a bad guy can only be offset by 2 more in the hands of the good guy - essentially a balance of power!

Only once there is a change in mindset and stupid laws are changed can we win the fight (yes a fight, not singing songs and wearing stupid ribbons on our shirts) against crime!

5

2

Reply to sunshine123 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Agent - March 9, 2011 at 12:50

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

And then they are the ones to lay down the law with plenty of arrogance about our private weapons which is legally licenced. The thing is we do not use them to commit crime they do.

2

2

Reply to Agent | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



sunshine123 - March 9, 2011 at 12:54

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The attitude towards civilian firearm ownership in this country is truly nonsensical. Illegal firearms (like drugs which can't be controlled no matter how much legislation you have) will always be there (e.g our porous borders and the fact that Africa is a civil war hot spot (not to mention the above article!))

The one thing that can be controlled is that good citizens who what to defend themselves can.

The advantages of an illegal firearm in the hands of a bad guy can only be offset by 2 more in the hands of the good guy - essentially a balance of power!

Only once there is a change in mindset and stupid laws are changed can we win the fight (yes a fight, not singing songs and wearing stupid ribbons on our shirts) against crime!

4

1

Reply to sunshine123 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Point Blank - March 9, 2011 at 12:59

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

That explains why so many R5 assault rifles are being used in crimes.... I wonder how many firearms that were handed in are back on the streets?

3

2

Reply to Point Blank | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



exocist - March 10, 2011 at 20:41

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

WHY DID YOU HAND IN YOUR WEAPON? STUFF THEM I DID NOT, IF THEY WANT IT THEY CAN GET OFF THEIR LAZY FAT ARSES AND WORK TO FIND IT, TO EVERY ONE OUT THERE GET YOURSELF ONE LEGALY OR ILLEGALY, THEY HAVE NO PLACE IN THEIR JAILS TO PUT YOU IF THEY CATCH YOU ANYWAY RATHER HAVE ONE SOMEWHERE AND NOT NEED IT, INSTEAD OF NOT HAVING ONE AND NEEDING IT THESE GOONS DRIVING AROUND IN THEIR WHITE CARS ARE TOO USELES TO HELP YOU, YOU HAVE TO HELP YOURSELF

0

0

| Delete



sunshine123 - March 9, 2011 at 13:02

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The attitude towards civilian firearm ownership in this country is truly nonsensical. Illegal firearms (like drugs which can't be controlled no matter how much legislation you have) will always be there (e.g our porous borders and the fact that Africa is a civil war hot spot (not to mention the above article!))

The one thing that can be controlled is that good citizens who what to defend themselves can. The advantages of an illegal firearm in the hands of a bad guy can only be offset by 2 more in the hands of the good guy - essentially a balance of power!

Only once there is a change in mindset and stupid laws are changed can we win the fight (yes a fight, not singing songs and wearing stupid ribbons on our shirts) against crime!

4

1

[Reply to sunshine123](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



benjvanniekerk - March 9, 2011 at 13:09

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The anc will blame the media, for making a big issue of cops loosing guns.

3

1

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



jiamalunga - March 9, 2011 at 13:16

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

It was lost out of context!

2

0

[Delete](#)



will baker - March 9, 2011 at 13:26

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Give the minister a lead sleeping tablet.

2

3

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



Other Justin - March 9, 2011 at 13:34

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

You get what you vote for, just like you get what you pay for.

3

2

[Reply to Other Justin](#) | [1 comment \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



2c - March 9, 2011 at 16:38

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

No Justin, I did NOT get what I voted for!

0

0

[Delete](#)



Oukaapje - March 9, 2011 at 13:43

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Our cops are making hay while the sun of the crime friendly F.C.A. is shining so brightly. Never have they had it so good. They know it can't last very long so they are selling their guns like tomorrow will never come. Same goes for the Army and lets wait for the Navy to be audited. I blame voter apathy

and indoctrination. The politicians and their favourite crime beneficiaries did not take power, they were given it by voters who either failed to vote or failed to vote against them.

2

2

Reply to Oukaapje | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



tut - March 9, 2011 at 13:47

Report commentComments Policy

20,000 weapons more than likely used to murder innocent SA civilians. This at the grace of the South African Police Services. These were weapons issued for active duty. What about all those weapons handed in by civilians?? I can only shake my head in shame! This Country has been hi-jacked by the criminals we voted for.

3

2

Reply to tut | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



spinductor - March 9, 2011 at 13:54

Report commentComments Policy

Add the missing weapons to the SANDF 80.0000 odd and you have enough weapons on the street to start a civil war. Mindboggling how SA is run by incompetent arrogant fools who do not know how to organize a dogs breakfast.

It is a known fact that handed in weapons by the public are sold by the SAP to the gangster element.

You disarm the public and arm criminals VIVA ANC VIVA!

2

1

Reply to spinductor | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Kia4 - March 9, 2011 at 13:58

Report commentComments Policy

It would appear that the police force is not being sensitised on ethical behaviour... From the leaders all the way down to the officers, Apparent from the Jacki Selebi case and now with Bheki Cele! It needs serious overhaul!!!

2

2

Reply to Kia4 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Monica - March 9, 2011 at 14:10

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Disarmed the households of their weapons in this country; so that the police can sell it to criminals!

5

2

Reply to Monica | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Ockert - March 9, 2011 at 14:24

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

How many of these "LOST" weapons were used in Farm Murders ???

5

3

Reply to Ockert | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



ZION - March 9, 2011 at 14:25

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

How do we define "Losing a weapon" in terms of a police force where the weapon must be on the owners person. Or is it a case of "Hey buster gimme your gun or else". Ha ha ha ha vroutjie ek het nou net my rollie verloor maar watde moer kom ons gaan kamer toe. The combinations and permutations are boundless which makes the whole issue suspect. Did he lose it while assaulting women in a pub at 03H00 on a Sunday morning. Or while being beaten up by a metro cop on a street

corner. Yes all ridiculous and all points to The possibility that weapon and owner parted company on a market related note. I wonder maybe I can.....

3

4

Reply to ZION | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Warren - March 9, 2011 at 14:32

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

It's not like it is a set a keys one misplaces or loses. 20 429 and counting.....wtf?!

3

4

Reply to Warren | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Louis III - March 9, 2011 at 14:39

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Thanks for spelling ot out Sindi Chikunga. And you know what, these blue-uniformed morons will still refuse a firearm license to a law-abiding citizen.

0

1

Reply to Louis III | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



ZION - March 9, 2011 at 14:45

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The weapons were lost since 2004 and given from the start of that year to end of 2010 then all were lost over a full 7yr period = 2918/year = 243/month = about 8/day. When seen in perspective the figures are troubling. What is happening to them? and what is happening to the guilty cops?

3

1

Reply to ZION | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Janine - March 9, 2011 at 14:46

Report commentComments Policy

This is insane!

2

2

Reply to Janine | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



RoyoF - March 9, 2011 at 15:01

Report commentComments Policy

In the Israeli army if you lose your weapon you will go to jail for 2 years .No inquiry or bulls9S*t Its an inexcusable mistake with life threatening consequences .

2

1

Reply to RoyoF | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



bosegoos - March 9, 2011 at 15:05

Report commentComments Policy

'Lack of discipline' - there story of the life of the SAP. If discipline is not maintained by the men at the top, how can you expect the men below them to exercise discipline. It is time that the ANC appoint a professional policeman as the Commissioner. Clowns, politicians and cheats can't do the job.

1

2

Reply to bosegoos | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



hawksnr - March 9, 2011 at 15:27

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

And they are the same f#c\$rs that are disarming us, I have a firearm since 1976 and can even account for every bullet I used.

The head is a blooming cowboy, what do you expect!!!!!!!

2

3

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



Steveribs - March 9, 2011 at 15:27

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

In as much as the thought of 20 429+ illegal firearms on our streets boggles the mind, what is more concerning is the total lack of accountability on the part of the police or their so called management. Nothing and I mean absolutely sweet F-all will be done about it. In a day or two's time no one will even remember the story. The opposition parties should collectively bring about a class action lawsuit and have the entire police management and negligent police found criminally liable and sent to jail with the criminals they support (and provide weapons to).

7

4

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



hawksnr - March 9, 2011 at 15:34

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

And they are the same f#c\$rs that are disarming us, I have a firearm since 1976 and can even account for every bullet I used.

The head is a blooming cowboy, what do you expect!!!!!!!

4

4

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



White_Rhino - March 9, 2011 at 15:40

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

The law abiding tax paying citizens of this country are being shot at and killed with weapons we indirectly payed for !! And this does not even account for all the amnesty weapons that's being sold out of the police's back door !!! Absolutely un F\$£KING believable !!! No head's gonna roll over this. In any other "civilised" country there would be a public outcry of note over something like this !!!!! ANC..... WTF !!!!!!!!!!!

5

5

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



RITEsaidFRED - March 9, 2011 at 15:44

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

20429 Weapons "Lost" - Sold to criminals is closer to the truth.
4810 Weapons "Found" - Returned by the criminals for a refund because the weapons were either faulty or broken.
I still regret handing in my 303, shotgun, 38 special & 9 mil. Chances are they never destroyed them, they more likely "Lost" them.

7

2

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



2c - March 9, 2011 at 16:40

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Sad hey?

0

0

| [Delete](#)



Mikus - March 9, 2011 at 15:44

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

and then this stone headed outbreak of sewer dwellers has the the blind f--ing cheek to force firearm law on a responsible public - scamper back to your kraals and nervous cattle and leave development to those who are humble enough to learn and improve after making mistakes. Oh - and yes, this statement has a selective racial bias - why - because I trust what I see.

5

2

[Reply to Mikus](#) | [2 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



2c - March 9, 2011 at 16:41

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I am a woman, when I see a cop or a Metro Police, I do not trust. As a matter of fact I fear them!

0

0

| [Delete](#)



exocist - March 10, 2011 at 20:46

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

ARM YOUR SELF LEGALY OR ILLEGALY DON'T WAIT FOR THE SHIT TO HIT THE FAN

0

0

| [Delete](#)



crispyduck - March 9, 2011 at 15:54

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

They should be fired !!

4

7

Reply to crispyduck | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Nosferatu - March 9, 2011 at 16:37

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Is it just me or does something like this come as no surprise. I think I'd be more shocked if I heard of an honest politician. Thanks to our police force, 20 429 guns are being pointed at our law abiding citizens.

Well done guys. We wouldn't expect any less.

4

5

Reply to Nosferatu | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



alicia - March 9, 2011 at 16:50

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

What a shocking mess we are in. Only the DA can save us. The current Government could not and do not care a fig. They are safe in their castles.

5

5

Reply to alicia | 1 comment (hide) | Delete



ignorance - March 9, 2011 at 17:45

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I actually think the DA is as useless as the ANC and all other political parties in this country. What we really need is a fearful leader, say like MadMan Gaddafi to take a 5 year contract in the SAPolice Service to instill discipline in our ranks. If he is not capable we, the people can rise up

against the SAPolice Services and run it ourselves.
Give the man a second chance. he deserves it.

0

0

| Delete



ReunionofIntelligentMinds - March 9, 2011 at 18:00

Report commentComments Policy

Imagine if police officials where sacked for loss of fire arms - we wouldn't have any policemen left.

4

4

Reply to ReunionofIntelligentMinds | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



Monique2011 - March 9, 2011 at 18:24

Report commentComments Policy

Oh my word, this news24.com is undoubtedly becoming the most entertaining page on the net. This news is nothing short of appalling and perfectly displays the lack of integrity of the people who are in charge. After the reports of the last few days one wonders how any one would vote these guys back into power when they have displayed nothing but deceit, lies, fraud, theft and an inability to govern. For those of you who are going to vote could you please tell us what the ANC have done that you think is so fabulous so as to give them more years in power to ruin our beautiful land.

6

4

Reply to Monique2011 | 0 comments (hide) | Delete



sarecen - October 11, 2011 at 09:27

Report commentComments Policy

Its funny how they want to take our civilion weapons away, but cant control their owne. The prawn rules this country

3

1

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



Pragmatist - October 11, 2011 at 11:24

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

I want one too please!!!

5

2

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



Bewildered - October 12, 2011 at 19:00

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

Just one question - is this huge figure just police issue weapons or does it include the firearms going missing from the evidence lockers that have been taken off criminals? I know of at least one instance where a policeman was caught selling guns from there - I think the actual figure must be much much higher.

3

4

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



722 - October 12, 2011 at 20:45

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

How do the SAPS lose 20 000 firearms. O now I remember there are no proper command and controle. That is the bottom line.

4

3

[Reply to 722](#) | [0 comments \(hide\)](#) | [Delete](#)



philip.geldenhuis.33 - July 29, 2012 at 19:22

[Report comment](#)[Comments Policy](#)

there is no discipline in the force and many more firearms will be lost! discipline from top management till the constable at ground level are at fault! SAPS a joke that is why i am glad not to be affiliated with the service anymore!!!

0

0

